FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 AUGUST 1984

Lebanon

Army Chief of Staff Dies — Beirut radio reported that Army Chief of Staff Major General Nadim al-Hakim and several other officers were killed when their helicopter crashed.

Tripoli Clashes — "Ferocious" clashes continued in Tripoli, raising the number of casualties during the past 2 days to "well over 100" dead and 250 injured, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. In an effort to halt the violence, an Islamic meeting chaired by the mufti of Lebanon cabled an appeal to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to "intervene directly and quickly" in order to save Tripoli, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon revealed.

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Minister Nabih Birri met prior to a full Cabinet session and they discussed the situation in the south and the security plan for the Mountain, Beirut radio reported. The Cabinet session, attended by all ministers except Walid Junblatt, who could not reach the B'abda location, included a discussion on the south, the radio added.

In a statement broadcast by the radio following the session, Karami announced that the Government will submit a complaint to the UN Security Council on Israel's subjugation of the south's inhabitants to the "ugliest forms of occupation." Responding to charges of Israel's isolating the south from the rest of the country, an Israeli Government official stated in an interview on Jerusalem radio that this claim is part of the "trumped up charges" being prepared for the UN complaint. He affirmed that the bridge across the Al-Awwali River will be opened on 23 August, although the radio later reported that the opening will be delayed until 24 August.

Libya

Ship Detained by France — The French Ministry of External relations announced that the seizure of the Libyan vessel *Ghat* in Marseilles is a "purely commercial affair," Paris radio reported. The ship, which is suspected of having laid mines in the Red Sea, was searched on 18 August by customs officials but no irregularities were found, the radio added.

Palestinian Affairs

The 17th PNC session will be held in Algiers on 23 September, according to a Palestinian source in Tunis cited by INA.

Iran

There was a "severe explosion" in downtown Tehran on 23 August that resulted in at least 15 dead and 300 injured, IRNA reported.

Afghanistan

Pakistani Protest — The Government "categorically" rejected Pakistan's protest against DRA violations of Pakistani territory, terming the allegations "poisonous accusations" and "groundless and hostile claims" meant to hide Pakistan's transformation into a "springboard for aggression" against Afghanistan, according to a Foreign Ministry note cited by BAKHTAR. The note stated that Pakistani authorities will be held responsible for the "unpleasant consequences" of their "aggressive policy and the spreading of false and poisonous propaganda."

Dost in USSR — Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost stopped over in Moscow 19-22 August on his way to UN-sponsored talks in Geneva, TASS reported. During his visit, he met with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko.

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'Arafat Sends Messages on Aden Agreement

JN221729 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent several messages to the leaders of Arab, Islamic, nonaligned, and socialist countries concerning the Aden-Algiers agreement and the convocation of the 17th PNC session in Algiers. Our radio correspondent said that Abu 'Ammar explained in these messages the contents of this agreement and what is required from its signatories in order to hold the PNC before the middle of next month.

Baghdad Voice of PLO on Central Committee Meeting

JN221721 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] will end his visit to Algeria after patronizing the graduation of a new group of Palestinian cubs. The graduation took place in the city of Tebessa.

It is worth noting that Brother Abu 'Ammar attended a meeting of the Fatah Central Committee [FCC] in the Tunisian capital the day before yesterday. During this meeting, the conferees reviewed the results of the dialogue among the Palestinian groups and a number of internal issues that concern Fatah.

Our radio correspondent said that the FCC formed a subcommittee to follow up the matters concerning the convocation of the PNC on the date fixed by the Aden agreement. The FCC will study the reports submitted by the subcommittees entrusted with following up the arrangements for holding the PNC, study the conditions of our Palestinian people in Lebanon, prepare plans for increasing national struggle in the occupied homeland, and prepare for the fifth Fatah General Congress.

APS: 'Arafat Attends New Forces' Graduation

LD221451 Algiers APS in English 1144 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Tebessa, 22/08/84 (APS) — Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chief, arrived yesterday in Tebessa south east of Algiers at the head of a high level Palestinian delegation.

After having been welcomed at Tebessa airport by the members of the coordination bureau of the Wilaya, the Palestinian revolution leader went to the Ain Zerrout [spelling as received] Barracks where he presided over the ceremony of the graduation of new promotion of Palestinian revolution forces as well as as cadres of which a unity was baptized in the name of the martyr Dawud Abu Akkar.

The ceremony was marked by the allocution made by the secretary of the FLN party commissariat who hailed the Palestinian combatants and reaffirmed Algeria's firm position towards the Palestinian cause.

In his part 'Arafat hailed the Algerian people and its political direction and underlined that Palestinian revolution [word indistinct] is still (?gaining) victories despite plots which is suffering will still win victories up to liberation of Palestine. [sentence as received]

INA: 17th PNC To Be Held in Algiers 23 Sep

JN221257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1238 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, 22 Aug (INA) — It was learned here today that the 17th PNC session will be held in Algiers on 23 September. A Palestinian source told the INA correspondent that the Palestinian factions agreed to hold the PNC on this date during their recent meeting in Algiers.

The source said that intra-Palestinian dialogues are currently being held in Tunis in order to pave the way for the PNC meeting.

DPA: Algerian, PLO Envoys on PNC Meeting

LD221414 Hamburg DPA in German 1317 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Bonn, 22 Aug (DPA) — After months of trying to reach agreement within the PLO the PNC — the parliament in exile of the Palestinians — will probably meet for its next session in Algiers on 24 September. This date has been agreed between the Algerian Government and the PLO leadership under Yasir 'Arafat, Algerian Ambassador in Bonn Taleb Bendiab Chaib said today in answer to a DPA question.

PLO representative in Bonn 'Abdullah al-Franji told DPA that the National Council would be a quorum even without the 'Arafat opponents. "Whoever comes can participate but must bow to majority decisions," he said. "The PLO will no longer allow itself to be paralyzed by the principle of 'unity at any price'."

Al-Franji did not want to rule out that agreement may be reached at the last minute on the participation in Algeria of the "National Alliance," the opponents of 'Arafat. This is the purpose of the current talks between 'Arafat, Al-Franji said. The real decision rests mainly with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The PLO groups supported by Damascus are no longer Palestinians but a "Syrian wing."

Aden VOP:Statement Issued After Algiers Meeting

GF220622 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text of press statement issued following the meetings of the Palestinian dialogue in Algiers — date not given, read by announcer]

[Text] On 18 August 1984, in the Algerian capital, a meeting was held by the brothers of the Fatah delegation movement and the delegation of the Democratic Alliance. The meeting was held to follow up on the developments so far and the steps to be taken to implement the Aden agreement.

The meeting reviewed the recent political and popular activities and reached the following conclusions:

1. Palestinian unity inside and outside the occupied territories, represented by the opinion of the people, organizations, characters, unions, and national forces, must be highly regarded. This unity is the positive outcome of the agreement of Aden and Algiers. The conferees affirm that this unity expresses our peoples desire to preserve the unity of the PLO, to protect its legitimate institutions, and to preserve its national line and its independence.

2. Gratitude must be expressed for the great role of friends in Algeria and the PDRY, in particular President Chadli Bendjedid, and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, for escalating the implementation of national Palestinian unity, and for protecting the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of our Palestinian people. Meeting participants also express gratitude for the stand of the allied and friendly forces in the Arab area and the international arena for supporting the agreement of Aden.

3. The meeting affirms the importance of Palestinian-Syrian relations. These relations must be developed to benefit the joint national struggle against the imperialist Zionist enemy and its plots. The meeting expresses support for all the practical steps aimed at enforcing these relations.

4. The conferring parties express total adherence to the agreement of Aden and Algiers, and the need for the immediate resumption of a comprehensive dialogue. The conferring parties affirm the need for convening the 17th PNC session in due time, according to the agreeeent of Aden and Algiers.

5. The meeting affirms the need to take practical steps to implement the agreement of Aden and Algiers concerning the escalation of the national struggle in the occupied homeland.

6. The meeting expresses support for the Soviet initiative, which affirms that the achievement of the solid national rights of our Palestinian people — under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative — is the basic pillar for reaching a just peace in the region. The meeting expresses gratitude for the firm and principled Soviet stand for PLO unity and the efforts of the Soviet leadership in this regard.

PFLP Committed to Aden-Algiers Agreement

JN220925 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Aug 84 pp 1, 21

[Hammad al-Fara'inah dispatch]

[Text] A senior Palestinian official has denied reports which cited PFLP-GC Secretary General Ahmad Jibril as saying at the news conference held in Damascus the day before yesterday that PFLP Secretary General George Habash has informed the Syrian president and the National Alliance factions that the PFLP will not attend the forthcoming PNC session if the National Alliance factions boycott the PNC session.

This came in a statement by Sabir Muhyi ad-Din, chief editor of the *AL-HADAF* magazine, the PFLP organ. He confirmed to *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* that Dr George Habash stressed to the Syrian president that the PFLP and the Democratic Alliance factions are committed to the contents of the Aden-Algiers document, and that this document constitutes a good basis for the unity of the PLO factions as well as a proper framework for holding the comprehensive national dialogue in order to pave the way for convening the PNC.

The Palestinian official added: The meeting which was held in Algiers 2 days ago touched on the importance of holding the PNC, but did not make a decision on convening the PNC. The PNC speaker's office and the PLO Executive Committee have this is the authority.

The Palestinian official stressed that all of the Democratic Alliance factions enjoy firm relations based on understanding and political harmony among all the factions. He said that some sides' wishes for a split within the Democratic Alliance are sheer illusions.

PFLP 'Surprised' at Statement on Its Behalf

JN221246 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The PFLP has expressed surprise that some sides have volunteered to speak on its behalf and to express stands that the PFLP does not take.

The PFLP is capable of clearly voicing its own stands and opinions without any mediators. The PFLP affirms its full conviction and commitment to the joint command and to the Democratic Alliance. It is proud of the cohesion in the Alliance's ranks, and of its stands toward the national issues and the means of solving the PLO problems. The front reiterates its deep conviction in the strategy of the special relations of struggle between the PLO and Syria in order to face the U.S. imperialist line in the region. The recent meeting between Dr George Habash and President Hafiz al-Asad has shown united political concepts of confronting the U.S. imperialist line, projects, and allies. The meeting also affirmed the concern that Syria and the PFLP have over the PLO unity, role, and activities.

That was the statement we received from the PFLP.

Palestinian Official on Tripartite Summit in Damascus

GF221526 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 21 Aug 84 P 19

[Samir Sa'd ad-Din dispatch from Tunis]

[Excerpts] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander-in-Chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and Fatah representative to the Palestinian dialogue meetings in Algiers, has told *AR-RIYAD* that the recent session of the dialogue was to fix a date for the next round in Algiers the middle of next month.

A tripartite summit will be held in Damascus next week among Presidents Hafiz al-Asad, Chadli Bendjedid and Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to normalize Palestinian-Syrian relations.

On my part, I am optimist about the outcome of this meeting, he said, particularly because the Algerian ambassador in Damascus has met with Syrian officials and conveyed to us yesterday encouraging news about Palestinian-Syrian relations.

About the possibility of making contacts between Fatah and the opposition organization, he said: We asked the members of the Democratic Alliance to arrange a meeting between us and all parties, excluding the dissidents, particularly the PFLP-GC, the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, and As-Sa'iqah, and we held separate contacts with those organizations. But regarding the dissidents there will be no dialogue with them except individually.

Abu Jihad said that he received a telephone call the day before yesterday informing him that Dawud Abu al-Hakam, one of the dissident leaders, has returned and joined Fatah with 100 of his followers. He said that all efforts point to the convocation of the PNC next month, but that there is a possibility of a week's delay because Algiers will host the African youth conference the middle of next month and the conference halls where the PNC meetings are to be held will be occupied by the African youth conference.

PLO Official on Palestinian-Syrian 'Difference'

GF230727 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 21 Aug 84 p 16

[Interview with Najib al-Ahmad, director of Yasir 'Arafat's office in Amman, by *AS-SIYASAH* correspondent Muhammad al-Majali — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Malaji] What are the reasons for the Syrian-Palestinian difference?

[Al-Ahmad] Syria does not desire the establishment of direct Palestinian-Jordanian relations. It should be noted that when Syria established excellent relations with Jordan in 1975, we as an organization welcomed this step and asked to take part in those relations, being the founders of the cause. We struggled to be the third party in those relations. Is it possible that Syria would meet with Jordan to serve the Palestinian cause, and the founders of the cause would just watch the dialogue? Thus there was independent Palestinian decisionmaking and the beginning of the difference. Syria does not desire a Palestinian-Jordanian meeting. We wish to be in one trench with the Syrians and fight, despite all that has happened. As you know, we fought on our own in Lebanon and we were fought by the concerned Arab brethren in Tripoli and Al-Biqa'. We ask Syria to stand next to us and Jordan, and we ask Husni Mubarak to stay away from the Camp David accords. The enemy takes advantage of the opportunities given by those accords. Had it not been for the negative effects of Camp David, Israel could not have invaded Lebanon.

[Al-Majali] What do you think about President al-Asad's veto, which prevents Brother Yasir 'Arafat's entry to Syria?

[Al-Ahmad] This is an old issue, and is part of the difference.

[Al-Majali] But the veto was issued a few days ago.

[Al-Ahmad] No, the veto was not issued in this sense. This talk is not right. What happened was President al-Asad told Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] that the internal organization issues are "your issues and we do not have any relation with them."

[Al-Majali] It has been said that Mr Khalil al-Wazir will settle down in Algeria instead of Jordan.

[Al-Ahmad] This is not true.

[Al-Majali] What about what has been said about some differences with the Jordanian Government?

[Al-Ahmad] There is no difference with Jordan; on the contrary, there is more understanding, and Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] has left Jordan only for work related reasons. He resides in Amman.

[Al-Majali] But some Arab magazines mentioned that there is a difference between Brother Abu Jihad and the Jordanian Government on the issue of Abu az-Za'im. What is your view on this?

[Al-Ahmad] All this is not true. Abu az-Za'im went to Jordan only on a short family visit and later left for Tunis. He is currently in Tunis. I believe that those news reports are part of the media campaign being launched by Israel.

[Al-Majali] It is said that there are Jordanian-Palestinian discussions on reinstating a number of fighters of PLO factions who are present in Yemen and Algeria, and to set up camps for them in the Al-Mafraq region. How true is this information?

[Al-Ahmad] Jordan has told the PLO that anyone who carries a Jordanian passport and wants to live in Jordan is welcome, but no doubt the entry of fighting elements into Jordan is a sensitive issue. The setting up of fedayeen centers is not likely, because Jordan would not permit this and we do not desire it. We, as you know, demand the opening of all the Arab borders, and I should remind you that the country which has the biggest number of PLO offices is Jordan.

San'a' VOP: PLO Receives Message From Gromyko

GF221816 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Brother Abu Ja'far ['Abd al-Latif abu Hijlah], director general of the PLO Political Department, has received the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tunis who handed him a thank you message to Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] head of the PLO Political Department from Comrade Gromyko.

Khalil al-Wazir Arrives in Amman 22 Aug

JN230912 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Aug 84 pp 1, 24

[Excerpt] Amman — *AD-DUSTUR* — Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commnader in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Amman yesterday after heading the Fatah delegation to the Palestinian dialogue with the Democratic Alliance, which consists of the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestinian Communist Party, and the Palestinian Liberation Front. The dialogue is part of the preparations to hold the PNC in the Algerian capital in the second half of September.

Al-Wazir will participate in the meetings of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee for supporting the steadfastness of kinfolk in the occupied territories. The meetings will begin on Saturday, 25 August.

KUNA on USSR, Arab Chambers of Commerce Meeting

LD211435 Kuwait KUNA in English 1342 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, Aug 21 (KUNA) — The representatives the Soviet and Arab Chambers of Commerce and Industry held their fifth meeting here Tuesday [21 August].

The meeting was opened with a speech delivered by the chairman of the Soviet chamber, Yevgeniy Pitrovanov, who said that the Soviet Union has developing relations with Arab countries, and expressed his support of the Arab peoples struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The chairman referred to the new Soviet initiative to solve the Middle East problem by saying it will help in restoring peace and stability in the region.

The Soviet official called for an end to the Iraq-Iran war, the dangers of which will effect the economy of the Gulf states and the Arab world in general.

On the other hand, he said that his country is proud of having developing trade relations with most of the Arab countries and is working to boost these ties in the interest of all parties.

Discuss Projects, Ties

LD222003 Kuwait KUNA in English 1839 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, Aug 22 (KUNA) — Talks between the Arab and Soviet Chambers of Commerce and Industry ended Wednesday and were followed by a meeting between the heads of Arab delegations and deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers, Ivan Arkhipov.

The heads of Arab delegations also met with first deputy of foreign trade, Minister Nikolay Kamarov and Chairman of the External Economic Relations Committee Aleksandr Kazhanov.

The secretary general of the Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Burhan ad-Dajani, told KUNA at the end of the fifth round of Arab-Soviet talks and the meeting with Arkhipov that discussions dealt with Arab-Soviet relations.

Ad-Dajani added that Arkhipov had stressed at the meeting the significance of Arab unity and the Soviet strong friendship with the Arab countries.

The Arab representatives stressed, on the other hand, that there are certain problems that require Soviet initiatives in order to solve them in line with both parties joint interests.

Ad-Dajani added that the meeting with Kamarov, who is also acting minister of foreign trade, touched on a review of the economic and commercial ties between the Arab countries and the Soviet Union.

The two sides agreed that those relations are far below what they should be and a discussion over reasons of that phenomenon was made.

Ad-Dajani also said the Arab side had stressed that the Soviet establishments and their representatives abroad should exert more efforts by communicating with businessmen, and that the Soviet Union should speed up its contacts with Arab countries in order to win major tenders and contracts.

At the meeting with Kazhanov, the latter presented a dossier of major projects implemented by the Soviet Union in different Arab countries such as dams, electricity stations and irrigation projects, Ad-Dajani said.

A joint communique will be issued Thursday on the chambers meeting and a protocol on joint cooperation between the Soviet Union and the representatives of Arab chambers will be signed.

Moderate Arab States Consider USSR Arms Offers

LD221522 Kuwait KUNA in English 1438 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Aug 22 (KUNA) — A number of "moderate Arab countries" were considering Soviet offers for arms deals which would de guided by the recent weapons agreement between Kuwait and Moscow, according to a London-based Arabic publication.

(?*AL-HAWADITH*) news magazine said in its Friday edition that those approaching the Soviet Union were taking the example from the [words indistinct] Kuwait which was a straight commercial deal, not tied to any political conditions.

The weekly, which quoted West European diplomatic sources, did not name these Arab countries.

GULF AFFAIRS

Kuwait's AL-WATAN Reports GCC Plan To End War

GF221500 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 21 Aug 84 PP 1, 11

[Sattar Jabbar report]

[Text] Is the Iraq-Iran war about to end? What did Khomeyni say to senior officers with whom he recently met? Will the forthcoming GCC summit scheduled to convene in Kuwait offer a Gulf plan to stop the Iraq-Iran war? Will it be presented as an Arab project? What about the news that there is a split inside the Islamic Good Offices Committee which met in Jidda last month? These questions are now the center of attention in the political and diplomatic circles. *AL-WATAN* asked prominent Gulf sources who are well-informed about what is happening in the region.

The sources told *AL-WATAN* that the Iranians have postponed an attack against Iraq for a while because of political and military differences among a number of religious people and a number of senior officers of the Armed Forces who suggested that Iran should take advantage of the recent lull at the front to conduct a diplomatic campaign to improve the image of Iran in the world, reorganize the Armed Forces, purchase Western weapons, and benefit from Western-U.S. proposals.

The sources said that Hashemi-Rafsanjani — the most powerful man in Tehran — was convinced of the importance of the proposals, and he is acting on them now. The sources added that a number of Iranian leaders — among them President 'Ali Khamene'i — suggested that Iran should try to end the war, but first a media campaign must be prepared to put the Iranian people at ease. Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who is close to Imam Khomeyni and his son Ahmad Khomeyni, concluded during his contacts with the Syrian and Libyan leaderships, and a number of officials in Arab countries that militarily, the war will not end, especially after the new formula, and since the Soviet Union has become part of it. The sources added that Moscow informed Iran through an Arab country that it will not allow any religious regime to be established in Iraq. Iranian officials understood that this Soviet logic is a direct threat to Tehran. Accordingly Tehran sent back some of the troops withdrawn earlier from the Soviet borders.

On his part, Imam Khomeyni asked senior Iranian officers to come to the city of Qom. His speech was explained by observers as a major change in his personal attitude toward the war, and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. This attitude was clear in part of the speech where he said: "The Iranian revolution has achieved some of its objectives, and tried to make the superpowers neutral to some extent toward what is happening in the Gulf." The sources said that these developments urged some of the Iranian officials to move secretly and to prepare an atmosphere to end the war. According to this, it is expected that during the coming days, a major change in the Iranian information media will take place.

About the rumors that the GCC summit will present a plan to end the war, the sources affirmed that the capitals of the Gulf states are now conducting active diplomatic talks with all the parties close to the Iraq-Iran war. They are also preparing a GCC plan to end the war which will be presented to the forthcoming GCC summit. This plan — if approved — will be a joint Arab one. The contacts with Syria and Libya — which were conducted by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, [Kuwaiti] deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, and minister of information — have resulted in a joint plan between the two Arab countries which have very good relations with Tehran and the GCC as well.

Regarding the news that there is a split inside the Islamic Good Offices Committee, the sources said that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and Pakistani President Ziaul Haq have suggested that a neutral Islamic force should disengage the forces of the two countries. But Saudi Arabia rejected this proposal, saying that the solution should be an Arab one. These sources also revealed that the United States is trying diplomatically in coordination with Japan to submit a plan to the United Nations so that the general assembly will issue a decision to curb weapons sales to the warring parties. The United States wants to improve its image in the region in light of the recent Soviet move.

GCC Oil Committee Postpones Meeting

LD221257 Riyadh SPA in English 1227 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Riyadh, Aug 22 SPA — The General Secretariat of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has announced the postponement of the seventh meeting of the GCC Ministerial Committee for Oil Cooperation to a date which will be fixed later. The announcement said the meeting originally scheduled to take place in Doha on August 28, was postponed in order to conduct more consultations on the agenda of the meeting.

The council groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

KUWAIT

Deputy Premier Receives EEC Ambassadors

LD221359 Kuwait KUNA in English 1106 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 22 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad received here Wednesday the ambassadors of the European Economic Community (EEC) to Kuwait, which groups Italy, West Germany, France, Britain, Greece, Denmark, Belgium and Holland. Sources here informed KUNA that the meeting was held in response to the EEC ambassadors request, during which Shaykh Sabah briefed them on Kuwait's stance toward the situation in the region.

Assembly Speaker, Delegation Leaves for PRC

LD221702 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1555 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 22 Aug (KUNA) — The speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Muhammad Yusuf al-Adasani left the country this evening, leading a delegation of the Kuwaiti parliament to Beijing on an official several-days visit at the invitation of the chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

AT-TALA'I on Red Sea Minesweeping Operation

LD221221 Kuwait KUNA in English 1037 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 22 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti *AT-TALA'I* magazine said Wednesday [22 August] the minesweeping operation carried by Western marine forces "resembles a military maneuver of a political meaning". The magazine said directly after the explosions of some mines in the Red Sea "the American, British and French Marines [as received] were ready for the minesweeping operation".

"It seems that this matter has been prepared for before hand and is a good scenario, which came directly after the conclusion of the Olympic Games so the public will only concentrate on this incident," the paper commented.

AT-TALA'I pointed out that if all these sophisticated technics are needed to clear the Red Sea from the mines "then the mines must have been planted in a very complicated way, therefore it could not be possible that a group of people using small boats, as the owners of the minesweeping fleets alleged, could have done this."

The magazine charged that the U.S. and the Western allies are responsible for this operation, because they believe that "if you want something then you have to create the circumstances and if you are keen to attend a funeral then you have to kill instead of waiting for a natural death", the magazine concluded.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd on Oil Production, Noninterference

LD211318 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Question-and-answer session held by King Fahd with Saudi students studying abroad in Jidda on 20 August — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified speaker] Your Majesty is aware of the fluctuations and instability that international markets are enduring, a matter which has consequences for many states, including the oil-producing states. We note, thanks to God, that the Kingdom is a state least affected by this phenomenon, as the development march with all its aspirations continues and important projects continue to be supported, which necessitates that we all should be more sincere and cooperate more with our beloved leadership in the march forward. Will Your Majesty give us more directives to realize this objective?

[Fahd] In actual fact the question is a very good one, as we can say that it deals with an issue of the moment. It is known that oil production is governed by many factors. Among them, those that I personally believe to be most important are achieving stability, first in production and second in prices, and tackling matters so that citizens in consuming countries can feel that oil production or oil prices are stable, at least for a specified time, say 3 or 4 years, and can determine what they can do on the assumption that prices are stable and that production is at the level of consumption. Naturally the oil-producing states — I mean the OPEC member states — have done and are continuing to do whatever they can not to create an international problem. To my personal knowledge I have not noticed that the OPEC member countries are the ones that are trying to create an international problem; in fact they have tried to agree with the industrialized states that oil production should be linked to industry on the basis that nobody's interests should be harmed.

It is noteworthy in markets now that consumption has decreased. A year ago OPEC production was about 31 million [barrels per day] and now, according to the agreement reached, it is about 17.5 million. Why has there been a reduction? The reduction was due, according to my view, to the fact that many industrialized states wanted to exert pressure on the OPEC member states. They have reduced their oil consumption — oil used for manufacturing, power generating, fuel for cars, and so forth. These are pressures, and I believe that these pressures were intended for specific reasons. Why do these [oil-consuming] states follow a line contrary to the interests of the oil-producing states? I do not believe that there is a single oil-producing state that wants to create a problem for itself, or just to create a problem.

Many conferences have been held with the aim of reaching an agreement between the consuming and the producing country, particularly the industrialized states, on the basis of a certain system and within certain limits, so that there can be international stability. Regrettably these discussions or meetings did not lead to any useful result, and I do not mean here useful results for us, the OPEC member states and oil-producing states.

The industrialized states may be trying to obtain a bigger share, or as they say, to have the lion's share. Naturally the OPEC member states are interested in the fact that there are states — Arab, African or Asian — whose income is limited. They shape their affairs and their budgets, industry or agriculture on the basis of how much oil they can import from the producing states. When I say this, I say it from a humanitarian angle; I say with the full knowledge that there are states in Africa that are in dire need. They may even lack food. When there is disturbance on the market and the price is $20, and after 2 or 3 months it reaches $25, the states that do not have the means to keep up with these prices will undoubtedly be harmed.

But we the producers are not the ones that cause such harm. The main reason, admitted by economists in Europe and the United States, is due to the fact that the OPEC member states are compelled to increase their prices to keep in step with increases made on imported goods on the international market. We hate to do these things, but we find ourselves compelled to do them in many instances to keep in step with the international market. We wish not to reach a level at which prices rise one way or another against our will. Therefore I say that the industrialized states have a great responsibility. They are suffering enough now from labor problems.

We still hope that there will be an international understanding between the industrialized states and the oil-producing countries based on solid foundations. Every person has his own views on this, and every person believes that this view is the best. I for example believe that if prices are fixed for a specific period this may bring about some kind of stability as far as the consuming countries are concerned, and also for the developing countries — the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is regarded as a developing country. Maybe this will provide some sort of stability. But I wonder, will the industrialized states from which we import or the other states that need to import maintain their industries at a specific level?

There are many people who say that the oil-producing states increase prices; we are accused of being the ones who begin this. But according to many international affairs writers from Europe, America, or elsewhere, we are the ones who suffer from this. The other thing is that the industrialized states increase fuel prices a great deal. Maybe our sons and brothers the students feel this in Europe or America. If we say that the price of oil is $28 — yes, Brother Zaki? — $29; and if each barrel is divided into gallons, you will find that you may have to pay about $50 at the pump. Why? The reason is known — states want to levy taxes on their citizens and residents who happen to be in these states. This is not the result of our own price increase they say; the OPEC member states were the ones that increased prices. In fact they are deceiving their own people. We have not increased prices. But their states want to levy taxes greater than logic allows. On this basis they began to reduce oil consumption. They told their people that consumption should be at specific levels. If a house uses 60 and 40 watt lamps for lighting, they said that the lamps should use only 20 watts. They imposed restrictions on the use of electricity and fuel consumption. The OPEC member states were actually put under pressure. The markets and the non-consumption exerted pressure on them, as did the storage of oil. OPEC production fell from 31 million to about 17.5 million barrels a day.

As for us, instead of 11 or 10 million, Saudi Arabia's oil production has decreased to 4 or 4.25 million barrels per day. This required that precautionary steps be taken with every means possible to avoid a collapse of the state. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was fortunate in that the important projects on which the country depends — roads, water, dams, electricity, tunnels, the telephone service — were completed in a matter of 10 or 11 years. We were fortunate that they were completed at a time when we had the means to do so. Today we have no problem; we have no fear. We do not fear any shake up in our economy. There is no inflation in our economy. There are no economic problems confronting us.

The question of oil, in my view, is a small passing problem. Be patient. If the OPEC member states are united in their efforts, the stored oil will inevitably run out. They spend a lot of money on these oil stores because they have no ready places for storage, so they have to pay rent. We as producing countries should be steadfast and accept the current situation under pressure. They will willingly or unwillingly find themselves in need of oil.

There are many efforts to find alternatives for oil as an energy source. To discover an easy alternative is a very difficult matter. This does not rule out that an alternative will one day be found. The industrialized states are making joint efforts and are paying hundreds and thousands of millions of dollars to find an alternative, however costly. But what is the benefit of this if they have to spend such vast sums? We have not refused to sell them oil. We did not hinder the sale of oil to them. All we want is parity — no winner and no loser.

[Unidentified speaker] The Kingdom's policy has been and still is one of the clearest and furthest from deception and trickery. It is founded on respect for all countries and on noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, and also on constant work for reconciliation and the elimination of conflicts and contradictions coupled with full commitment to principles. Does Your Majesty agree that it is in the interests of all the region's countries to adopt these principles so that our Arab and Islamic nation can be lifted out of its contradictions and lapse?

[Fahd] In fact this matter falls within the basic structure of the Arab and Islamic nation. If we look back to the days before God sent down His message to His prophet and see how the Arab nation was then — he who has read history among us knows about the Arab conditions then and how they became after God showed His generosity to His people and sent down His message through His Prophet Muhammad, who showed them the way. Undoubtedly the Islamic faith was not meant to be confined to the Arabs alone, although it came through the Arabs and God chose his prophet from among the Arabs. But God did not differentiate between Arab and non-Arab. The Islamic faith covered the far and the near. No Arab can be considered better than a non-Arab except in accordance with the extent of his piousness. God said that he who is more pious is the one who has more respect from God. Islam has no racial discrimination or discrimination because of color. It does not differentiate between people because of customs and habits. This is true democracy. It is not that false democracy which decrees that some people must travel in the front part of a bus and others in the rear. This sort of thing actually exists today. The Islamic faith has made the entire people of the world brothers.

The Islamic faith was sent down to all mankind, to those who followed it and those who did not. We now see Muslims in Russia and the PRC. This means that the Islamic faith was developed at some time or another. Despite the suffering the Muslims have been experiencing in many countries, they are still clinging to their Islamic faity irrespective of whether their commitment was founded on principles or was the result of deception.

We are all aware how the Islamic faith developed and receded, and deteriorated so much that many things that have nothing at all to do with it have been attributed to it. Anyone who has read the book As-Sihah and what has been accepted as true by the imams of Muslims would readily realize what has happened to the Islamic faith and how it has deteriorated. It only deteriorated when it was abandoned by the Muslims who were attracted by the temptation of worldy things. Only then did Islam deteriorate. God had has wise reasons for allowing this. This is because God supports people and grants them strength if they adhere to their faith, but if they ignore their faith he humiliates them.

We Muslims have been colonized for many long years, and we could only free ourselves after many long years. Why do other countries triumph over us, whether it is by their thoughts, might or anything else? There is only one reason — the absence of a true Islamic solidarity. I do not say that such solidarity is impossible. On the contrary, the initiative being taken, namely the Islamic solidarity and the rallying of the Islamic nation within one framework, proves the existence of an Islamic awakening among Muslims irrespective of whether they are Arabs, Africans, Asians, or live anywhere else in the world.

During the last Islamic conference held in Casablanca, discussions naturally took place and an understanding was reached among the Muslim leaders. All these are extremely excellent starts. It is known that the Islamic conference meets within fixed times — every 3 or 4 years it meets in a country which plays host to it. The results of such conferences have become tangible. The meeting of Muslim leaders leaves a very good impression among the Islamic peoples.

As for the Arab nation, as the questioner has said, one of the basic principles of the Saudi Kingdom's policy is noninterference in the affairs of the others. It is not right for us to interfere in anyone's affairs and we do not want anyone to interfere in our affairs. However, this should not prevent us offering advice in an acceptable manner. But advice does not mean that one should stand on a platform and deal abuse to one particular country or criticize or provoke it, because this would be provoking people without accomplishing anything. But if you are a sincere Muslim and wish to offer advice to your Muslim brother on any level, you can do so by accepted ways and by discussing the issue with that Muslim in a covert manner. This way might be more effective.

I do not believe that anyone can stand in the way of the Islamic faith. However we as Muslims should try to understand the meaning of the Islamic faith. The Islamic faith is not a slogan, but words and deeds. It does not provide for rashness or for retreat. There is no monasticism in Islam. There is no place for fear in Islam. There is no place in it for bigotry or for departure from the Islamic faith, because that would mean a decay of the Islamic faith. Thanks be to God, things are clear before us. We respect every Arab, Islamic and non-Islamic country. We are not prepared to interfere in the affairs of anyone at all or to dictate our wish on anyone. At the same time however we will not permit anyone to interfere in our affairs.

Minister Receives UAE, Senegal Officials

LD221459 Riyadh SPA in English 1234 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, Aug 22, SPA — Saudi Endowments [awqaf] and Pilgrimage Affairs Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi received here today the United Arab Emirates' Religious Affairs and Endowment [awqaf] Minister Muhammad ibn Hasan al-Khazraji and discussed with him cooperation in the field of pilgrimage and endowments. For his part, the UAE minister praised efforts being made by the Saudi Government to provide excellent services to pilgrims.

Later, Al-Wasi received ambassador of Senegal to the Kingdom, Moustapha Cisse, who is also head of his country's pilgrimage mission. Al-Wasi briefed the African diplomat on preparations undertaken by the Saudi Pilgrimage and Endowments Ministry for the accomodation of pilgrims. Cisse praised efforts made by the Saudi Government in service of pilgrims and to make the pilgrimage season a success.

Interior Ministry on Marriage Regulations

GF221930 Manama WAKH in English 1730 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Riyadh, Aug 22, (WAKH) — Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif has issued instructions to concerned authorities to exempt nationals of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council, who desire to marry Saudi girls from restrictions currently in effect relating to marriages with foreigners. The instructions are in compliance with the council member states desire to achieve more cohesion. These instructions will also enable Saudi nationals to marry girls from the council's other member states. The Kingdom's shari'a courts and embassies in the GCC countries have been notified about the new instructions in this respect. The council is made up of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

UAE

Prime Minister Leaves for Pakistan

GF230731 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0630 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Dubayy, 23 Aug (WAKH) — Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, UAE vice president and prime minister, left Dubayy for Pakistan this morning on a visit that will last several days. He was seen off by a number of shaykhs and senior officials of the UAE.

YAR

President Opens People's Congress Session

GF211440 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, opened this morning at the meeting hall of the military college in Ar-Rawdah the second ordinary session of the General People's Congress.

Military Spokesman on Mine Sweeping Operations

NC221254 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] A military spokesman at Suez Port has stated that the U.S. and British naval units are presently carrying out clearing operations in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea. The U.S. units are operating north and south of Ra's Shuqayr, the British units are operating at the northern part of the Gulf of Suez, and the Egyptian units are operating in several areas.

The military spokesman said that the British units include four minehunters and a support ship. These units have participated in clearing the Gulf of Suez in the aftermath of the 1973 October war.

The source added that the U.S. and British units are using the latest technology in searching for the mines. Among the equipment they use, he said, are television cameras that can operate under water to spot any object at the sea bed and determine the way to deal with it.

Two French minehunters will arrive at Port Said tomorrow to take part in the minesweeping operations under the command of the Egyptian Navy and in coordination with the Suez Canal Authority.

Soviet Cruiser Arrives

NC221613 Paris AFP in English 1545 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, Aug 22 (AFP) — The Soviet Union has sent three cruisers to extend its minehunting operations in the southern end of the Red Sea, Egyptian port sources said today. The sources said a Soviet cruiser passed through the Suez Canal during the night heading in the direction of the South Yemen coast, and two more should enter in the Red Sea at dawn tomorrow.

Soviet minesweepers have been operating for several days in the Bab el-Mandeb strait, in the waters of its ally South Yemen, some 1,500 kilometres (937 miles) south of the Gulf of Suez, informed sources said here. Political observers in Cairo believe the Soviet action is due to concern in Moscow about the concentration of Western mine-hunting ships in the territorial waters of Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Four Italian ships left for Suez today to join the U.S., British and French units which have been there for six days. Unexplained explosions have hit at least 20 ships at both ends of the Red Sea since mid-July, according to Egyptian officials.

Mubarak Receives U.S. Congressman Solarz

NC211753 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] President Husni Mubarak today received U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz and the delegation accompanying him. The U.S. ambassador in Cairo attended the meeting. .

Mubarak Cables Ceausescu on National Day

NC221210 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1140 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 22 Aug (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable of congratulations to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on the occasion of Romanian National Day:

I am delighted to send Your Excellency the most heartfelt congratulations on your country's national day. I am positive that the friendship and cooperation binding our countries will grow every day for their common benefit and for world peace and security.

Assembly Official Meets New Soviet Charge

NC221422 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 22 Aug (MENA) — Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-'Ilah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee, today received at his office (Mikhail Isfirna), the new Soviet charge d'affaires in Cairo. They discussed various aspects of Egyptian-Soviet relations and ways to promote them, particularly in the economic and commercial domains. They also reviewed in full the situation in the Middle East and the latest developments in the Guf area.

'Abd al-Ilah also received (Nubu Asay) director of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Middle East Institute. They discussed the Middle East situation in all its aspects and reviewed the situation in the Red Sea and the Gulf.

'Abd al-'Ilah also met with Miklos Nagy, Hungarian ambassador in Cairo. They exchanged views on various international issues of common interest and discussed ways to bolster bilateral realtions.

Cameroonian Delegation Arrives in Cairo

NC221844 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1817 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 Aug (MENA) — Mahamat Paba Sale, Cameroonian minister delegated to the minister of foreign affairs, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo this evening on a 1-week visit to Egypt. He will head his country's delegation to the Egyptian-Cameroonian Joint Commission session. Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, received the Cameroonian official on arrival at Cairo International Airport.

Al-Baz on Arab Relations, Peace With Israel

PM221201 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 Aug 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "New Political Stance Announced by Al-Baz: Egypt Rejects Separate Settlement With Israel and Supports International Peace Conference"]

[Text] Cairo — Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the Egyptian Presidential Office and Foreign Ministry first under secretary, has stated that cooperation and consultation between Egypt and most Arab states are currently at their best. The formal aspect of diplomatic relations, he said, has little effect on contacts and cooperation. Al-Baz, in a statement to reporters in Alexandria Monday, pointed out that Egypt proceeds on the basis that there are no fundamental contradictions between it and any Arab state and endeavors to settle any dispute with any state in a cordial manner out of its faith in the common interests of the entire Arab nation.

Al-Baz noted an increasing conviction in most Arab circles that Egypt is pursuing a foreign policy which respects the Arab nation's strategic interests and especially Arab security in its collective sense, be it military, political, or economic security. He added the most Arab brothers now realize that Egypt cannot possibly agree to function within the framework of any separate or partial settlement within Israel, and that peace with Israel is one part of a whole which must be achieved in the form of an overall settlement which decisively settles the Palestinian question and arranges relations between Israel and its neighbors on the basis of peace. Here, he added, the need emerges for Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and particularly the West Bank, including Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights, and Lebanon, as well as the need for recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and national entity.

On prospective peace efforts, Usamah al-Baz said that some attitudes will crystallize by the end of this year, when the various sides will have settled their affairs. The PNC is meeting in Algiers on 15 September, the new Israeli Government will have had a chance to formulate its views, the U.S. election will be over, and, we hope, the Arab situation will have improved as far as coordination and solidarity among the various Arab sides which shoulder fundamental responsibilities in the peace efforts, namely Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and the PLO, are concerned.

Al-Baz added: We support the idea of an international peace conference and we welcome participation by the UN Security Council's permanent members in addition to the direct parties to the conflict, but we believe that it is not right just to wait for such a conference to be held.

He urged continuation of efforts and work so that Israel cannot consolidate its occupation and actually annex Palestinian territory.

Air Force Hits Maritime Target South of Khark

JN231346 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1332 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Aug (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman stated that an air strike was carried out at 1440 today on a large maritime target south of Khark Island. In a statement to INA, the spokesman added that the target was accurately and effectively hit and that all of the Iraqi Air Force planes carrying out the attack returned safely to base.

Communique No 1,565 on 21-22 Operations

JN221621 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,565 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant forces stand in the operational sectors with high capability to strike with the sword of right and justice the forces of the Khomeyniite clique which has been blinded by rancor. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our valiant units intensively shelled several enemy positions and troop concentrations in the operational sector east of Basra and pounded them with all types of weapons, inflicting on the enemy losses in life and equipment. While carrying out its activities in the no-man's-land in another area of the same sector, one of our valiant patrols captured weapons and military hardware the enemy had left behind in previous battles.

2. Two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 August 1984

Saddam Husayn Cables Ceausescu on National Day

JN230809 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0700 GMT 23 Aug 84

["Text" of congratulatory cable from President Saddam Husayn to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu — date not specified]

[Text] His Excellency Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania: On the occasion of Romania's national day, it gives us pleasure to send you our warmest congratulations on behalf of Iraq and in my own name, wishing you continued good health and happiness, success and progress to the friendly Romanian people and development and prosperity for our bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq.

Ceausescu Receives Trade Minister 'Ali

JN221154 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Bucharest, 22 Aug (INA) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu received here today Hasan 'Ali, Iraqi RCC member and trade minister. They discussed bilateral relations and the means of developing them.

Hasan 'Ali arrived in Bucharest last night leading a delegation to participate in the 40th anniversary of Romanian liberation.

Agreement With Kurds, Communist 'Treason' Viewed

PM221459 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
21 Aug 84 p 1

[Qasim as-Samawi report: "Baghdad: Agreement With Kurds Imminent, Communist Party Treason Proved"]

[Text] A high-ranking Iraqi official has stated that agreement with the Kurds is imminent because everyone is now aware of the dangers threatening Iraq.

The official adds that when the current talks with the Kurdish National Union led by Jalal at-Talbani end, the union will effectively participate in building the new Iraq.

Na'am Haddad, member of the National Command of the ruling Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and National Assembly speaker, said in a press statement published in Baghdad yesterday that "the Iraqi Communist Party has confirmed its betrayal of Iraq, people and country, and has confirmed that it is an agent. This party tried to take [former Kurdish leader] Al-Barzani's place by portraying itself as defender of the Kurdish people's rights, but the Kurdish people know from experience who is for and who is against their cause."

Haddad added: "Reactionary forces have tried to divide Iraq into Arab and Kurd. Some tried to divide Iraq on a sectarian basis. The Iraqi people will never forget the Communist Party's bloody and fascist practices, especially after the 14 July 1958 revolution. Our people have rejected the claims and moves of this hostile, lackey party. The Communist Party's treason against the Kurdish people and all sections of the Iraqi people became clear when the party took up arms on the side of the reactionary regime in Iran and fought alongside its foreign forces against our Arab and Kurdish people."

Concluding his statement, Haddad said: "Just as the Iraqi people crushed the agent Al-Barzani's group, our Kurdish people will crush the Communist Party remnants who are trying to obstruct our national march."

King Husayn Receives Rep Stolarz 22 Aug

JN221636 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz, member of the U.S. Congressional Budget Office and the Foreign Affairs Committee.

The meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court and the court minister.

General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received the U.S. Congressman in his office this afternoon. During the meeting, they discussed issues of mutual interest.

King Husayn Cables Ceausescu on National Day

JN221644 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn sent a cable today to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu congratulating him in his majesty's name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on Romania's national day. His majesty expressed his confidence in bolstering the relations of friendship between the two friendly countries. His majesty wished Ceausescu success in leading his people toward further progress and prosperity.

Amman Source on Purchase of Soviet Weapons

JN211808 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1720 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] A well-informed source in Amman has stated that Jordan is seeking to purchase weapons from the USSR after the United States refused to supply it with air defense weapons.

General Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, visited Moscow early this month but did not conclude any agreement on Soviet weapons for Jordan.

The source explained that Amman expressed its desire to purchase antiaircraft missiles after Washington refused to sell Stinger surface-to-air missiles to Jordan.

In 1981 Baghdad gave Amman approximately $250 million to purchase 20 batteries of Soviet SAM-8 missiles in addition to 16 radar-guided batteries of another type.

Army Chief of Staff, Others Die in Helicopter Crash

NC231414 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1406 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Major General Nadim al-Hakim, the Army chief of staff, was martyred in a horrifying incident today. The incident occurred when a helicopter carrying him from Ihdin to the Defense Ministry in Al-Yarzi crashed. Colonel Nahra ash-Shaluhi, the commander of the 7th Brigade, and a number of officers also died in this incident. A statement is expected to be issued by the Army Command soon explaining the incident.

Reportage on 22 Aug Weekly Cabinet Meeting

Meets Without Junblatt

NC220935 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The Cabinet's weekly session started in B'abda at 1130. President Amin al-Jumayyil is chairing the meeting, which is attended by Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the ministers, except for Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism. Ministers 'Adil 'Usayran and Dr Salim al-Huss arrived at the Presidential Palace 5 minutes before the session.

A meeting was held at 0900 between President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Minister Lawyer Nabih Birri. It continued until the session started.

Protest Keeps Junblatt Away

NC221120 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The Cabinet session started at 1130. It is still in progress in the absence of Minister Walid Junblatt, who was unable to come to the B'abda Palace because of a demonstration staged by relatives of kidnapped persons. They set fire to tires and blocked the only road leading to the B'abda Palace. After three futile attempts to proceed to the presidential palace, Minister Junblatt decided to return home at noon today.

Al-Jumayyil Addresses Session

NC222027 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has called on the Lebanese leaders to adopt a conscientious stand and to stem the national hemorrhage. He said: If we do not make sacrifices and practice self-denial, there will be no Lebanon and there will be no south. He added: Let us utilize all resources in order to put an end to the occupation, whatever the sacrifices, pains, and hardships.

The president said this during today's Cabinet meeting, which reviewed various aspects of the situation in the south. During the meeting, the ministers emphasized Israel's responsibility for the tragedy in the south. The Cabinet heard a report by the Army Intelligence Directorate and listened to the views of a number of ministers.

President Al-Jumayyil then spoke, thanking the Intelligence Directorate for its elaborate review of the situation in the south. Al-Jumayyil said Israel is certainly responsible for everything taking place in the south. We have emphasized and will continue to emphasize this responsibility, he said.

President al-Jumayyil added: The primary blame falls on Lebanon, however, because the Lebanese leaders have not yet realized their full responsibilities and are still preoccupied with superficialities, despite the seriousness of what is taking place in the south. He said: Since we included the broad lines for political reform in the government policy statement, and since we have started to implement this policy, why are we concentrating again on political discord for the purpose of camouflaging the painful events which are taking place in the south and which trouble us? Why return to classifying the Lebanese people and the Lebanese areas into national and non-national areas? Why the statements that cause division and disintegration? Why have some ministers and directors general not yet been able to reach their ministries?

President al-Jumayyil also asked: How will we be able to send the Army to the south when we have not been able to send it to Ash-Shuwayfat and Khaldah? How can we ask Israel to end its practices in the south when we have not been able to completely control security in Beirut itself? How can we restore civil administration to the south when we have not been able to reactivate and liberate the administration in Beirut? How can we attack Israel for dividing the southerners when some seek division and classification in Beirut?

Al-Jumayyil called on the leaders — during these delicate historical circumstances through which the country is passing — to stop and think, to assess mistakes, to put an end to one-upmanship, and to utilize all resources in order to put an end to the occupation, whatever the sacrifices, pains, and hardships.

President al-Jumayyil said the delicate circumstances make it incumbent upon us to acquire credibility at home: If we cannot acquire this credibility, how can we face other states and call on them to support us in our fateful struggle? If we are truthful, we must restore credibility to the state and its institutions.

President al-Jumayyil concluded his statement by saying: I call on the leaders to adopt a conscientious stand and ask them to stem the national hemorrhage. If we do not make sacrifices and practice self-denial, there will be no Lebanon and there will be no south.

To Issue Complaint on South

NC221201 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1126 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The Cabinet session held today, from which Minister Walid Junblatt was absent, ended at approximately 1400. Discussion at the session was mostly devoted to the situation in the south in light of the report submitted by the Intelligence Directorate about the situation in south Lebanon. In light of this, the Cabinet decided, according to the statement made by Prime Minister Karami a few minutes ago, to submit a complaint to the

UN Security Council. The Foreign Ministry was asked to draft this complaint. The Cabinet decided to issue the new defense law, as well as to hold an emergency session on Saturday in order to discuss political and security matters contained in the policy statement. It has also been decided that President Amin al-Jumayyil should preside over a meeting in B'abda Palace tomorrow at 1700, to be attended by Prime Minister Karami, Ministers Skaf and Birri, the governor of the south, the governor of An-Nabatiyah, the Rashayya district officer, and the western Al-Biqa' district officer. This meeting falls within the framework of efforts to deal with the situation in the south.

Karami Makes Statement

NC221307 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1135 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] At the end of the Cabinet session at 1400 today, Prime Minister Rashid Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording][Karami] The Cabinet met today in the absence of Walid Junblatt, who could not come because of the demonstrations staged on the road by relatives of kidnapped persons. I regret such demonstrations which contradict the public interest, although we support the cause for which the demonstration was staged. The Cabinet heard a report by the Army, outlining the situation in the occupied areas. We have formulated a clear picture of the practices and actions taking place there and the objectives behind them.

The Cabinet decided to ask the Foreign Ministry to submit a complaint to the UN Security Council. It was also decided to publish the new defense law. It was decided to hold a meeting, chaired by the president, tomorrow afternoon in order to adopt practical means and arrangements for helping the occupied areas. It was likewise decided to hold a Cabinet session this coming Saturday [25 August].

Here I must refer to the international agreements which safeguard the rights of citizens and the occupied areas, including the Hague, Geneva, or the London conventions — particularly the Geneva fourth convention, which Lebanon and Israel have ratified — to prevent the actions which the Nazis carried out against the Jews. The irony of the matter is that those who were meant to be protected by this convention are now themselves tormenting the Lebanese and subjecting them to the ugliest forms of occupation. We will base our complaint to the UN Security Council on all these agreements, which the Israeli enemy is violating daily.

[Unidentified reporter] In addition to what you said, Mr Prime Minister, there is the question of internal security and the current contacts for the security arrangements in the mountain and the escalation in the political situation, which is accompanying these contacts. How do you explain this?

[Karami] We want to draw attention to Lebanon's problem, which has continued for 10 years. The formation of a national unity government is regarded as the main step to national accord and to the establishment of a just legitimate authority capable of dealing with the questions of the people. We are confident of the implementation of the general process, which started in Beirut alongside the amendment of the Army law, and the establishment of a new command to ensure the restoration of the legitimate authority's control over all parts of Lebanon. If obstacles arise from time to time, this cannot be taken as cause for pessimism or as a failure of the salvation process. We consider the Cabinet's decision on the security plan in the mountain as still in force. We said at the time that the decision will be applied in stages. The first stage is its study among those concerned. I am confident that we will arrive at arrangements that will allow the adoption of preliminary steps, which will be followed by others for the salvation of all of Lebanon.

[Reporter] Can it be said that the Cabinet's upcoming session will deal with the mountain security plan?

[Karami] There is no doubt the Cabinet's extraordinary session this coming Saturday will discuss all these matters, including the political matters that were contained in the government's policy statement. We pledge to uphold every word in the statement. We will proceed to discuss all these matters and to achieve them.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, was a date set for submitting the complaint to the United Nation?

[Karami] No, it is left up to the Foreign Ministry, in light of its study, to draw up the complaint for later submission. I hope this will done as soon as possible.

[Reporter] Have you discussed the situation in Tripoli?

[Karami] There is no doubt that contacts are taking place at all levels to save Tripoli from this painful situation. [end recording]

Junblatt Raps Government 'Procrastination'

NC221823 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Those who like to fish in muddy waters do not miss a chance to impede the march for security reconciliation and the plan for salvation of the south. Following last week's procrastination by the regime and the Phalangists — which led to several postponements of the Cabinet meeting — they deliberately gathered today in Galerie Sim'an which leads to the B'abda Palace. This road — which is usually used by the ministers — being blocked, Minister Walid Junblatt had to turn back.

Instead, Junblatt made an inspection tour of the southern suburb. He visited the Amal movement center in Bi'r al-'Abd and the Mu'awwad Marketplace, which he promised to help reconstruct, and the Sabra and Shatila areas.

Junblatt commented on why he did not arrive in B'abda by the same means as the regime's officials and on how the regime is blocking every initiative for security, reconciliation, and liberation. This is what he told newsmen:

With due respect to the feelings of those mothers who were assembling because of what happened to their missing sons and husbands, what occurred today is a political sign with the same significance as the Kafr Shima battleline. It is linked with the regime's refusal to seriously discuss the political reform agreed upon in Lausanne and in the government statement.

It seems that the present Lebanese regime is reverting to the theory of security before reconciliation, the theory which it tried to impose through the 17 May agreement. The regime is reverting to this theory without offering any tangible concessions to its sectarian, security, or economic interests.

Speaking about the south, Walid Junblatt said: We know that the lipservice which the regime occasionally pays to the south is only meant for the benefit of the media. The regime has abrogated the 17 May agreement only formally, but in its heart and in deed it is still clinging to it.

Junblatt added: What happened today prevented me from attending the Cabinet meeting, but it was an opportunity to get to know the conditions in the southern suburb. I feel guilty not to have visited the southern suburb earlier. My visit to the suburb deepened my belief in the partitionist objectives of the regime, or, say, its unionist objectives, bearing in mind the assault on all the Islamic and Arab features of Lebanon.

Such a ferocious devastation of the suburb was not a coincidence, nor was the devastation of the mountain, nor that of Ra's an-Nab'. All this boils down to Phalangist separationist and isolationist political schemes — the schemes which are linked in substance and in practice to Israel and the West.

How ridiculous and obvious are the regime's intentions toward the suburb. For instance, the southern suburb has been allocated 10 million Lebanese pounds through the so-called Suburb Development Authority. This authority might as well be called the suburb humiliation and devastation authority. In these areas tens of millions are expended on semiofficial palaces.

Junblatt said: What happened today permitted me to tour the Sabra and Shatila areas and visit the ill-fated site of the massacre. I still blame the system, together with Israel and the Multinational Forces, for perpetrating this massacre to serve the well known sectarian and isolationist goals.

What happened today is a reminder of the bitter facts about the nature and intentions of the Lebanese system. In the mountain as well as in the suburb and in Sabra there is a single scheme with definite features.

For my part, I will try to give every peaceful endeavor a chance. I will not be the first to precipitate tension. I know quite well that the Phalange Party and its associates love to have a security deterioration. Because of their Zionist connections peace has become a threat to their existence and credibility. The Phalangists have been and are still trading on Lebanon and its Christians — particularly the displaced people in Ash-Shuf and Al-Kurah — to impose their dictatorship on the helpless Christian people. They would not listen to reason.

Junblatt added: To substitute the Lebanese Forces' militias with the presidential militias — be it official or nonofficial — does not change anything in the destiny of Lebanon's Christians or patriots. Both kinds of militias are two sides of the same coin. I hope the regime and its officials will understand my words.

Junblatt said: On security and political grounds, and out of concern for the safety of Cabinet members, I do not consider B'abda, or any other place in eastern Beirut, an appropriate site for the Cabinet meetings. Security precautions are completely lacking there, particularly with the apparent proliferation of official and quasi-official organs there. If something goes wrong there is little chance of pinpointing the one responsible. This is what happened, for instance, in the case of the assassination of Shaykh Halim Taqiy ad-Din and in the case of the missing people.

I would like President al-Jumayyil to select a secure and satisfactory site for the Cabinet meetings, so that the members can continue the security and reconciliation march despite the difficulties.

Birri Comments on Meeting With Al-Jumayyil, Karami

NC230535 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] A tripartite meeting was held prior to yesterday's Cabinet meeting among President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Karami, and Minister Birri, during which the discussions dealt with all current issues in addition to the situation in the south and the stages relating to the security plan in the mountain.

Responsible sources pointed out that the Cabinet was unable to discuss its usual agenda in view of the serious and important subjects it dealt with yesterday, namely, the situation in the south. The Cabinet heard a detailed report by the Army about the practices which are being carried out in the south and which violate the most basic human rights and international agreements. The Cabinet decided to publish the new defense law.

Minister Nabih Birri said that during the tripartite meeting a frank discussion took place about the reasons which have so far prevented political decisions although the security situation has improved by 90 percent since the government was formed.

Minister Birri said that President al-Jumayyil expressed his readiness to discuss political issues and that the president never hesitated to seek the unification of the Lebanese. It was agreed to open the political file and to speed up its achievement either through meetings to be held for this purpose or by convening daily sessions of the Cabinet.

Minister Birri said that what had been accomplished by the Cabinet is a positive step as the session was for the south and for defense. He hoped that the political action will continue to arrive at the full implementation of the contents of the government's policy statement.

Khaddam, Junblatt Talks Resume in Damascus

NC230930 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Talks between Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Minister Walid Junblatt resumed in Damascus. They concentrated in particular on the political situation in Lebanon, and the implementation of the security plan in the mountain.

Reports indicate that Junblatt took many maps with him to Damascus detailing the mountain area.

Franjiyah Holds Weekly News Conference 21 Aug

NC221008 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0625 GMT 22 Aug 84

[News conference by former President Sulayman Franjiyah on 21 August at the Ihdin Summer Palace — read by announcer]

[Excerpt] Question: In light of the political problems which have impeded the implementation of the security plan in the mountain, and the renewed indiscriminate shelling in the capital, there are some who believe the expected security plan is no more than a mere arrangement, fraught with big fears that it will perpetuate the borders of the cantons [words indistinct]. What is your view?

Answer: Talk about the plan is merely for entertainment. Had the originators of this plan been serious in implementing any security plan, then they should have begun its implementation before engaging in talk. He who talks much works little. We have become accustomed to daily statements, which when heard by a non-Lebanese person, create the impression that the one who making the statements is making sacrifices for the sake of his homeland. However, it has regrettably become apparent to the Lebanese citizen that the government that wants to govern, governs by words only.

Question: Then, Your Excellency, how can it be possible to disregard the plans to establish cantons?

Answer: Many political functionaries have many dreams. I emphatically say that I shall resist with all my ability, any change in the political situation in Lebanon that takes place before security encompasses all the Lebanese territories practically, and not only by words. Moreover, if there are good intentions aimed at any political change in Lebanon, there is only one authority to which laws are submitted. This authority is the chamber of deputies, which will accept or reject the laws. Anything that is issued by an authority other than the chamber will be void.

Question: It appears that Syria has again returned to offer its resources toward helping Lebanon. How do you view the new Syrian move?

Answer: What I fear from this move is that its result will be similar to what we have been experiencing for 8 years. Sisterly Syria moved according to an initiative from President al-Asad in 1976. It guaranteed normal life for all the Lebanese until Israel arrived on the scene and confounded all the results of the Syrian initiative with the losses that it caused. Despite all that has taken place, sisterly Syria has taken the initiative to help Lebanon emerge from the current situation. My hope is that if this initiative succeeds, our payment for it will not be like that of 1978.

Question: President al-Jumayyil's statement to U.S. television gave an impression of optimism and readiness to complete the salvation march with the leaders' agreement. He also affirmed that the 1943 formula will be adhered to. What is your view?

Answer: I hope this optimsim will be well placed practically, and not theoretically.

Question: The U.S. ambassador visited you recently. During your conversation with him, did you feel any change in the U.S. stance on the situation in Lebanon and in the south in particular?

Answer: The U.S. ambassador honored us with a visit to Ihdin. Naturally, we spoke (?in detail) about the south and a little about politics. I expressed the hope to the ambassador that he would ask his president to define which Israel he is protecting when he claims to be protecting Israel. I asked the ambassador in a loud voice how the U.S. President can be at peace with himself when at least once a week we hear criticism from him about the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, when we have not heard for 2 years and 2 months one single word of criticism about the Israeli presence in Lebanon.

VOL Says U.S. Journalist Kidnapped in West Beirut

NC231130 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1126 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] At noon today three gunmen stopped U.S. journalist (Ronald Edwin) on Madame Curie Street in West Beirut and took him to an unknown destination.

Foreign Ministry Secretary Leaves for Romania

NC211630 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk, secretary general of the Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Ministry, left Beirut for Romania at 1400 this afternoon to represent Lebanon at the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the Romanian revolution.

Reportage on Cease-Fire, Fighting in Tripoli

VOAL: Cease-Fire Agreement 21 Aug

NC211300 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] We have just learned that an official cease-fire agreement was reached in Tripoli at 1500 during a meeting held in the town hall. It was attended by acting Governor 'Abd al-'Aziz Abu

Haydar, the members of the Northern Coordination Committee, representatives from the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party, and the Northern Security Committee.

Our correspondent says scattered explosions, machine-gun volleys, and sniper fire can be heard along the frontlines.

Tension Prevails, Sniping Continues

NC211544 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] A state of tension prevails in Tripoli as a result of sniper fire which continues in areas that were the scenes of violent clashes which broke out last night and continued until this afternoon. The clashes claimed 25 dead and well over 75 wounded.

A cease-fire agreement was put into effect at 1515 following the meeting of the Northern Coordination Committee.

RFL Reports Renewed Fighting

NC211626 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] A short while ago, we learned that the security situation deteriorated again in Tripoli. The Northern Coordination Committee failed to stabilize the cease-fire, which was scheduled to go into effect at 1600 today. The committee held a stormy session during which both sides exchanged accusations.

Clashes are currently taking place in Bab at-Tabbanah and Ba'l Muhsin. Shells are landing there and on the outskirts of the Al-Baddawi camp. Rocket launchers and various types of artillery are being used. Pro-'Arafat gunmen are fighting at the side of the Islamic Unification Movement, while pro-Syrians are being aided by the gunmen of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha].

VOL on Cease-Fire Violations

NC211845 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] A state of hightened tension continues to reign in quarters of Tripoli, particularly in the areas of clashes in Al-Qubbah, At-Tabbanah, and Ba'l Muhsin. Internal security forces sources said that bursts of intermittent machine-gun fire have been reported on the contact lines interspersed with rocket fire.

Other security sources reported that artillery shells hit residential areas in At-Tabbanah and Az-Zahriyah after 1915.

Following today's clashes, which left 25 dead and more than 100 wounded, the Northern Coordination Committee intensified its contacts to consolidate the cease-fire and set up two observation posts in Qal'at Tarablus and in the Fattal building near the municipal playground to determine which side violates the cease-fire.

Clashes Continue; Toll Rises

NC212058 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] The latest security report from Tripoli indicates that intermittent clashes with machine guns and rockets are still raging on the contact lines in Ba'l Muhsin and At-Tabbanah.

'Abdallah ar-Rasi, chairman of the Islamic Grouping in Tripoli, said this evening that all of the town's quarters and streets were shelled and that well over 60 persons were killed and 200 others were wounded. Ar-Rasi expressed regret for the entire town being punished. He expressed the desire to visit Damascus to discuss all measures necessary to establish security in Tripoli.

Guarded Calm Prevails 22 Aug

NC220535 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Guarded calm prevails in Tripoli following yesterday's tragedy. Violent and severe clashes occurred, during which shells fell at random in residential quarters, hitting homes and killing about 70 and wounding 186 of those who were in their homes to escape the violence, which continued for 22 hours.

Contacts and meetings were intensified and Prime Minister Karami maintained constant contact with influential northern leaders in order to stop the bloodshed. Consequently, the clashes abated at 1500 yesterday following the cease-fire announced by the Northern Coordination Committee at its extraordinary meeting, which was attended by the parties concerned and official security commanders.

An agreement was reached at the meeting to set up observation posts in order to define the responsibility of the party which violates the cease-fire.

Security violations were reported in various areas where sporadic explosions and bursts of machine-gun fire were heard after 2000. It is recalled the shelling was concentrated on Az-Zahiriyah, Al-Qubbah, Ba'l Muhsin, Al-Ghuraba', Corniche an-Nahr, Suq al-'Attarin, and Tal'at ar-Rifa'iyah, as well as the At-Tall areas, Ath-Thaqafah Street, Al-mina' Road, At-Tabbanah, Boulevard Tarabulus, Tripoli's northern gardens, and the accesses to the port.

Shelling Reported

NC220646 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0635 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Our Tripoli correspondent reports that two shells landed near the Government House in the city a short time ago. Severe tension now prevails there. The latest number of casualties in yesterday's clashes reached 35 dead and 124 wounded, according to the security sources.

It was reported a short while ago that shells landed on the Al-Mallulha, Al-Mallah, Ath-Thaqafah, and Latifah Streets in Tripoli. Several people were wounded and were taken to hospitals for treatment.

Beirut on 22 Aug Clashes

NC220843 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0835 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Scores of shells have been falling on all quarters in Tripoli since 1100 today while clashes are taking place on the contact lines, particularly in Al-Qubbah, At-Tabbanah, 'Azmi Street, and At-Tall.

Meanwhile, Dr Samir Kabbarah, head of the health department in the north, has appealed to all hospitals to carry out their duties and to admit all cases without exception. He called for blood donations for the wounded.

Casualties Reported

NC221130 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] A well-informed source in the International Red Cross today confirmed that the number of casualties since Monday night is between 60 and 70 killed and 250 wounded admitted to hospitals in Al-Batrun, Zharta, and Halba. This figure excludes those killed and wounded who were taken to hospitals in Beirut, Jubayl, and Juniyah.

The latest security reports at midday said that 1 person was killed and 15 others were wounded during today's indiscriminate shelling.

VOL: 'Ferocious' Clashes Continue

NC221446 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Security reports from the north describe the clashes that took place in Tripoli today as ferocious. During the clashes the combatants stormed each other's positions in the Ash-Sha'rani and Al-American areas, where several buildings were destroyed and a number of people were killed or injured.

Our correspondent's latest report from Tripoli says that violent clashes have been continuing since 1100 today and all meetings and contacts by the parties concerned, particularly the Northern Coordination Committee, have failed to bring about a cease-fire.

The concentrated shelling across the combat lines in the suburbs of Al-Qubbah, Al-Baqqar, 'Azmi, Al-Mullah, (?Murun), Al-Mulluli, Ba'l Muhsin, Latifah, the government building, and the Citadel, is accompanied by indiscriminate shelling of residential areas in Az-Zahiriyah, the Citadel, Bab al-Hadid, and Abu 'Ali. Seven people were killed and well over 20 wounded fell in today's clashes, raising the death toll to well over 100 and the injured to 250 in the past 2 days.

RFL Reports on Fighting

NC221654 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The latest security reports from Tripoli say that the clashes are now concentrated in the Al-Qubbah area, where ferocious fighting is continuing while the Islamic Unification Movement gunmen and the Red Knights storm each other's positions. Reports this evening say that the 'Alawites made some progress in the Al-Qubbah area while the Islamic Unification Movement followers retreated from their forward positions.

Artillery shells and rockets are falling in residential areas, particularly in Al-Jahiriyah, the railroad area, on Ath-Thaqafah Street, on the fair grounds, and in the Al-Barraniyah suburb, where there are several fires. The report says that the 'Alawites have reinforced their positions in the Al-Khatib and Al-Jallad buildings and brought in new forces.

The clashes renewed in Tripoli this morning and light, medium, and heavy-caliber weapons were used. The battles became violent at noon. The Sunnite followers of the Islamic Unification Movement, backed by Yasir 'Arafat's supporters on the one hand, and the 'Alawite Red Knights gunmen, backed by the Palestinians dissidents and Syrians on the other, stormed each other's positions.

Today, the Red Knights gunmen occupied the Bidar al-Ghanam area, the Al-Malluli perimeter, the Al-Mankubin intersection and completed the occupation of the grain market and brought in fresh supplies and men. A security source said that certain Syrian positions from Dahr al-'Ayn in the south up to Al-'Ayruniyah and 'Araman participated in the rocket and heavy artillery shelling. In addition, the Palestinian dissidents joined in by shelling the Tripoli suburbs from their emplacements in the Al-Baddawi camp and its perimeter. The pro-'Arafat Palestinians participated in the battles on the side of the Sunnite Islamic Unification Movement forces. More dead and injured were taken to Tripoli's hospitals this afternoon.

The Islamic Unification Movement leader Sa'id Sha'ban asked the Syrian president why he is pounding Tripoli in this way. He said: We hope that the Syrian president will immediately hasten to reveal the hands that are wreaking havoc among the people of Tripoli. He said that what is going on in Tripoli is an annihilation of all of its population.

Islamic Meeting Appeals to Al-Asad

NC221734 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Republic, chaired the Islamic Meeting, which was held at the mufti's house today.

His Eminence Mufti Khalid sent a cable in the name of the conferees to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The cable says: The Islamic Meeting devoted its session today to the massacre in Tripoli. It decided to appeal to you to intervene directly and quickly in order to save this struggling city, which has written glorious chapters of the Arab struggle, and which remains a fortified fortress and steadfast bastion against the plans of the Zionist enemy crouching upon the chests of the Lebanese — the enemy which is supported by the imperialist states led by the United States — and in order that this city may remain a comrade of struggle alongside the proud Syrian people under your leadership.

A delegation representing the Islamic Meeting in the north, which held discussions in Beirut yesterday, visited Damascus today to hold talks with Syrian officials on developments in Tripoli.

Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement, has appealed to the Islamic, Arab, and world conscience to stop what is happening in Tripoli. He asked: In whose interests is the current exacerbation in Tripoli, particularly as in its Arab and Islamic stands Tripli merits no less than the honor medal. It is the only Lebanese city which has refused to enter into a sectarian conflict.

Sha'ban added: These massacres serve the Israeli plan that aims at creating enmity between us and the Syrian brothers. We do not want such enmity.

Fighting Eases; Toll Updated

NC221855 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Fighting in Tripoli eased at 2030 tonight. According to security sources, more than 20 persons were killed or wounded in tonight's clashes. Approximately 20 people were killed or wounded in previous fighting throughout the day. Reports say incendiary shells fell on the Al-Ghuraba' area, starting a fire near [words indistinct]. The fire spread to nearby lumber yards.

Delegation To Visit Damascus 23 Aug

NC230628 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Excerpts] A guarded calm prevails in Tripoli following another day of violence in which about 20 persons were killed and many others were wounded. A new cease-fire was reached after intensive contacts among various political leaders in the city.

A delegation from Tripoli will visit Damascus today to discuss the situation in the city.

Cease-Fire 'Almost Complete' 23 Aug

NC230836 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Security reports received from Tripoli say there is almost complete abidance by the cease-fire which was announced last night. However, tension prevails in areas which were the scene of clashes.

VOL: Sa'id Musa Escapes Assassination Attempt

NC211155 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Reports from the Al-Biqa' indicate there was a new assassination attempt on Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] last night in Barr Ilyas, when three gunmen opened rocket and machine-gun fire at him. One of his aides was injured and a clash with the attackers ensued. One of the attackers was killed and another was detained, but the third escaped. An Abu Musa group said the attackers were members of an organization calling itself Tala'i' al-Fajr al-Jadid [New Dawn Vanguards], which is known for its support for Yasir 'Arafat.

Army Bans Demonstrations in Beirut Areas

NC230635 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The Army Command yesterday warned against demonstrations in Al-Hazimiyah, Mar Taqla, and B'abda. The command said that as of 0800 on 22 August relatives of missing persons were demonstrating near the As-Sayyad building and blocking the roads and burning tires along the road from Galerie Sim'an up to the As-Sayyad traffic circle. Contacts were made at various political and leadership levels to end the abnormal situation which has disrupted the people's freedom of movement and work.

At night the demonstrators occupied the television building in Al-Hazimiyah. The Army Command was compelled to send a military force which forced the demonstrators to leave the building. Some persons were detained. It appeared that several demonstrators had nothing to do with the missing persons question.

The Lebanese Army Command while understanding the humanitarian nature of this question urges the citizens to view it realistically. The vestiges of the 10-year war must not disrupt the security and peace process. Therefore, the Lebanese Army Command decided to ban any demonstration in the area from Mar Taqla to B'abda regardless of its purpose. The command hopes that the people will abide by this decision; otherwise it will be compelled to use force.

VOL: 100 Yemenis Deployed in Western Al-Biqa'

NC220952 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' has reported that 100 gunmen from North Yemen have recently deployed in the Ghazzah area of western Al-Biqa' near the Syrian-Israeli confrontation lines. These gunmen are working in coordination with the PFLP.

Army Positions in Mountain Come Under Fire

NC221907 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Lebanese Army positions and cease-fire observers' posts in Suq al-Gharb and Qal'at al-Husn came under artillery and antiarmor fire from Junblatt followers' positions in 'Aytat. Bsaba is coming under sniper fire from Al-Ma'rufiyah.

Beirut Reports on Israeli Operations in South

NC230611 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] This morning Israel reopened the Batir-Jazzin road which was closed for about 1 week during which the Israelis isolated the southern area from other parts of Lebanon.

The enemy forces made several arrests in various southern towns and villages while resistance fighters maintained their attacks against the enemy forces in the Lebanese occupied territory.

Travelers coming to Sidon from the An-Nabatiyah area said resistance fighters attacked with rockets civilian vehicles belonging to Israeli intelligence in the western quarter of Jibbshit near Al-Madafin. This was followed by intensive bursts from light-caliber machine guns. Israeli reinforcements, including several personnel carriers and jeeps, arrived in the town where random fire was opened and flares were used followed by a large-scale search campaign including Jibshit and the nearby areas.

Meanwhile, an Israeli occupation forces' patrol crossed the Al-Awwali bridge yesterday morning and reached As-Sa'diyat before returning to Wadi Az-Zaynah. The patrol then proceeded to Shhim in Iqlim al-Kharrub. Part of the patrol then proceeded to Barja.

It was reported that the patrol asked the mukhtar of Shhim to hand over several wanted persons. After it failed to capture any of the wanted men, the patrol threatened the mukhtar and said oppressive measures will be taken if the wanted men are not handed over within 48 hours. The other part of the patrol took up positions in Barja.

Another report from Al-Biqa' said the occupation forces have closed the crossing point between Al-Biqa' and western Al-Biqa' through the Ghazzah gate.

South Crossing Points Reopened

NC230940 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] While it has been reported that Israel reopened the Batir-Jazzin and the Niha-Jazzin crossing points, an Israeli source said that the Israeli forces have delayed the reopening of the Batir-Jazzin crossing point because the security measures which were expected to be completed today will not be ready before tomorrow, Friday.

Reports also say that Sidon port was reopened today to cargo ships, that the Al-Awwali bridge is open for traffic to Sidon and for pedestrians in both directions, that the old Al-Awwali bridge is open for traffic to Beirut and for pedestrians in both directions, and that the Bisri crossing point is passable in both directions.

Israeli Exercises Reported

NC211128 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Excerpt] An explosion took place east of Sidon at 0300 today, followed by bursts of machine-gun fire. No details are available. Meanwhile, a formation of Israeli warplanes carried out exercises, which included mock raids on targets in the sea south of Sidon. Several gunboats were also seen cruising along the coast.

Lahd Militias Take Over Israeli Post in Sidon

NC221136 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The occupation forces have carried out maneuvers with live ammunition in the hills overlooking Sidon. These forces searched the Al-Bustan al-Kabir and Al-Hammam al-'Askari areas last night, using flares.

Security reports say members of Lahd militias have replaced the Israeli forces in the military post at the northern access to Sidon near the teachers college.

Reportage on Operations in South Against Israel

Attacks Near Sidon, Tyre

NC220534 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] While Israeli attacks against the inhabitants in the south and attempts to isolate it from other parts of the homeland are continuing for the third successive day, Lebanese national resistance fighters are maintaining their operations against the occupation forces, asserting their rejection of all forms of occupation and their determination to achieve full liberation.

National resistance fighters yesterday carried out three operations in the Sidon and Tyre areas, inflicting several casualties on the enemy. Israel admitted that one soldier was killed and another was wounded while eyewitnesses affirm that the enemy suffered more casualties.

2 Explosions in An-Nabitiyah

NC230836 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Lebanese national resistance fighters intensified their attacks this morning against the Israeli occupation forces.

There were two operations in one area of An-Nabatiyah this morning at about 30-minute intervals. At 0730 an explosive device was detonated while an Israeli patrol passed through the Mahdi al-Husayni Street in An-Nabatiyah, wounding two members of the patrol. At 0800, and 50 meters away from the first explosion, another explosive device went off near an Israeli roadblock, wounding Lebanese citizen Husayn Yusuf Nassar from Kafr Rumman. Immediately afterward the occupation forces sealed off the main streets in the city.

Summary of 14-21 August Actions

NC230814 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 22 Aug 84 p 5

[Text] The third edition of "the Lebanese National Resistance Daily News," which is published by the "Cultural and Media Organizations Grouping for the Support of the Liberation of the South, Western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya," was published yesterday.

The edition included a review of the national resistance operations against the Israeli occupation forces and the practices of these forces against the citizens of the occupied Lebanese areas during the week 14-21 August. It said that 22 operations were carried out, 7 citizens were wounded, 54 people were arrested, 7 Israeli soldiers were killed, and 7 vehicles were destroyed.

Israeli Position Reportedly Fired at B'abda Palace

NC230810 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 22 Aug 84 p 5

[Text] "LEBANON NEWS AGENCY" [wakalat akhbar lubnan] quotes military sources as saying that security reports have confirmed that the source of the shells which were aimed at B'abda Palace and at Al-Hazimiyah and Al-Hadath last Sunday was the Israeli positions in Al-Baruk mountain.

Syrian, Israeli Artillery Exchanges Reported

NC231052 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1040 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] In western Al-Biqa' artillery exchanges took place between the Syrian forces and Isreali enemy forces on the confrontation lines in Al-Baruk and Mount Hermon. The shelling continued intermittently throughout the night.

Information Minister Interviewed by Soviet Media

JN222014 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh has made a statement in Damascus to Soviet news media correspondents representing TASS, APN, and Soviet radio and television in which he affirmed Syria's firm position under struggler President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership toward confronting imperialist and Zionist plans. He also asserted his high appreciation of friendship and joint cooperation with the USSR. Answering a question about the Soviet initiative to solve the Middle East conflict, Rajjuh said that this initiative has certainly been the focus of the world's attention, particularly regarding the details the initiative presented concerning a just peace in the Middle East. Strong evidence of the importance and seriousness of this initiative was its immedaite rejection by both Israel and its ally, the United States.

Rajjuh affirmed that the USSR's stand is not new to us. He said: We have a traditional, deep, and old friendship in all fields with the USSR. We are continuously deepening and strengthening this friendship according to the directives of both Presidents al-Asad and Chernenko and the commands in both the USSR and Syria.

He added that the Soviet initiative reflected a deep understanding of the need for a just peace, peoples' liberation, and the Palestinians' legitimate rights to return to their homeland and to establish their independent state. He reiterated: We received this initiative with deep understanding. During President al-Asad's meeting with Comrade Polyakov, the president noted Syria's approval and welcome of this initiative. Moreover, our comrade foreign minister has made statements on our understanding of this initiative.

Rajjuh added: We in Syria value this initiative by our dear friend the USSR. This is not a new joint political trend, but one that asserts our friendly alliance in confronting imperialism, hegemony, and the imposition of U.S. influence on our country and the world.

Answering a question about U.S. policy in the region, the Red Sea mining, and escalating tension in the region in general, Rajjuh said: The U.S. stand is not new to either us or the entire progressive world. U.S. policy is not an American policy but an Israeli policy disguised in American clothing. Evidence of this is the fact that this policy is an alliance that serves evil, invasion, and aggression against peoples' freedom. At certain times, we believe that the capital of the United States is not Washington but Tel Aviv.

Rajjuh affirmed that U.S. rejection of the Soviet initiative is proof of the U.S. imperialist and Zionist desire to step up invasion and oppress the peoples' will and freedom. He said: We evaluate the U.S. policy daily, and we are aware of the U.S. desire to escalate international tension, increase the terror of nuclear armament, and diminish the area of peace.

Rajjuh said: We in Syria are suffering, like all Arab and progressive countries, from the U.S. desire to retreat from peace and to deal aggressively with peoples to impose more hegemony on them. Because of the U.S. desire to aggravate the international situation we feel that we must remain firm in our stand. We are not weak in this regard, because we possess our intrinsic capabilities which are represented by our people's strong and struggling masses and a group of friends whom we feel proud of and who are working with us for the freedom and progress of mankind in the entire world.

Concerning the Red Sea mining, Rajjuh said: We consider this mining as a new U.S. scenario to come closer to the Arab region and to impose more hegemony on it. Consequently, it is aimed at creating confusion in the region's economic and political fields.

He added: There is an old Arab proverb which says, "They kill a person and then attend his funeral." Thus, they laid the mines and came with their NATO allies to help clear them from the Red Sea. This is a funny scenario and is considered only one aspect of the multifaceted U.S. policy. It aims at increasing the U.S. imperialist presence in the Red Sea region.

Monte Carlo: Junblatt Arrives in Damascus 22 Aug

JN221811 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] We have learned from our correspondent in Damascus, Louis Faris, that Lebanese Minister Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, arrived in Damascus this evening accompanied by Hani Salam and Marwan Hamadah. He is expected to hold talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam this evening before leaving for Bucharest tomorrow morning to participate in Romania's national day celebrations.

UN International Conference Proposal Supported

JN222125 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] United Nations — Syria reiterated today its support for holding an international conference on Middle East peace according to the UN General Assembly's proposal of last December. In a reply message to UN Secretary General Javier Peres de Cuellar, Syrian Ambassador to the United Nations Diya' Allah al-Fattal said that the events in the region have proved that partial and gradual solutions cannot achieve a just, comprehensive, and durable peace in the region. He affirmed that the power and de facto policy which the Israeli enemy is currently adopting with unlimited U.S. support is the main obstacle against reaching a just and comprehensive peace.

Noting the UN General Assembly's proposal for holding this conference, Al-Fattal said that Syria firmly supports the UN General Assembly's resolution adopted on 13 December 1983 on holding an international conference on peace in the Middle East. He added that Syria highly values the UN secretary general's efforts in this regard. Moreover, he expressed Syria's support for the Soviet proposal made on 29 July 1984, in which the USSR reaffirmed its readiness to contribute to holding an international conference to achieve a just and durable peace in the region.

Al-Asad Receives PDRY Official, Message

JN221202 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1300 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Abd al-Qadir 'Abd al-Ghani, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee. Abduh 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, PDRY ambassador in Damascus, attended the meeting. 'Abd al-Ghani conveyed a message to President al-Asad from PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The message deals with the situation in the region and issues in the Arab arena. The president asked him to convey a reply message to Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

Al-Asad Cables Ceausescu on National Day

JN220933 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 22 Aug (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad today sent a congratulatory cable to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on the 40th anniversary marking the liberation of Romania. President al-Asad expressed his warm congratulations and good wishes to President Ceausescu and the friendly Romanian people. He also expressed concern about promoting relations between the two countries, and his appreciation of Romania's support for the Arab people's just struggle.

Al-Kasm, Ash-Shar' Arrive in Romania for National Day

For Syrian and Romanian reportage of the visit to Romania of Vice President Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm and Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' and their participation in the festivities occassioned by the 40th anniversary of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation of 23 August, including talks with Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania, see the Romania section of the 22 August Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

INA: Rif'at al-Asad Supporters Reportedly Arrested

JN230805 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Aug (INA) — Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* today cites informed sources in Damascus as saying that some supporters of Rif'at al-Asad, Syrian vice president and brother of Hafiz al-Asad, have been imprisoned. The sources indicated that one of the most prominent figures arrested was Muhammad Haydar, former director of the Foreign Relations Bureau at the command of the Syrian regime's ruling party.

Abba Eban Orders Knesset To Convene 3 Sep

TA211806 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Acting Knesset Speaker Abba Eban has ordered the Knesset to convene for a session on Monday [3 September], 2 weeks from now. This has been reported by our correspondent Amnon Nadav. Knesset Member Eban gave the order to the Knesset secretary. He is relying on the attorney general's legal opinion, according to which he has the full authority of the Knesset speaker.

Peres Interviewed on Current Political Events

TA222007 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1840 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman Knesset Member Shim'on Peres by party affairs correspondent Nisim Mish'al, Hayim Yavin and Ya'aqov Ahime'ir in the weekly "Moqed" program — live]

[Excerpts] [Mish'al] Good evening. The guest of our program is the Labor Party chairman and prime minister-designate, Shim'on Peres. About 3 hours ago, Mr Peres signed an agreement with the Yahad Movement, thus creating a turnabout in the political arena, a turnabout which may pave his way to the premiership. In his first interview with the media this evening, Mr Peres will reply to questions about his chances of forming a new government and about many other issues, time permitting. With me in the studio are Hayim Yavin and Ya'aqov Ahime'ir. Good evening to you, Mr Peres.

[Peres] A good and blessed evening to you.

[Mish'al] In the wake of the agreement you signed with Mr Weizman this evening, do you think you will be able to present the president with a government headed by you as early as next week?

[Peres] I am not sure. The parliamentary picture is very divided. In my opinion the State of Israel has never before seen such a divided picture. I am not making light of the obstacles still standing in our way. However, I will say that the kind of government is more important than the question of when we will set it up.

[Mish'al] What kind of government do you consider most important? I assume you will say a government of national unity.

[Peres] You are right, and I really want to establish a national unity government.

[Yavin] Mr Peres, on which issues would you be willing to meet the Likud halfway in your efforts to establish a national unity government?

[Peres] Look, we made quite a serious effort this week. Committees of the Likud and the Alignment in the political and economic spheres held meetings. The political group was headed by Yitzhaq Navon, while the economic group was headed by Mr Gad Ya'aqobi. We made very strenuous efforts to bridge the genuine ideological gaps between us and the Likud and it seems to me that both these committees have already made significant headway....

[Yavin — interrupting] But not sufficient.

[Peres] In fact, there are hardly any disputed problems which cannot be bridged. Although the disputes remain, progress was made on the question of time or the way to handle them and, in my opinion, this lays the foundation for a government. As far as representation is concerned, I will make the fairest and most acceptable proposals. As for the order, the political group will meet tomorrow. After it has completed its work, I will call Mr Shamir and will suggest to him that we meet to begin discussions on all those issues which have not yet been decided.

[Ahime'ir] Knesset Member Peres, would you be ready to establish a unity government even at the cost of rotating the post of prime minister with Mr Yitzhaq Shamir?

[Peres] The problem is not one of cost but of the rotation itself. I have checked the matter with legal experts and with people acquainted with the political scene and this is hardly feasible.

[Ahime'ir] The law can be amended.

[Peres] No, it is not merely a legal question. In fact, two things would happen: The Knesset would stop functioning altogether because for 4 years it would be impossible to submit a no-confidence motion. Let us say that the government does something which one of the large parties does not like. What would happen then? I would not like to make an agreement which I am not sure we would be able to put into practice.

[Mish'al] Beyond your formal explanation here there is also the political question. If the Likud is willing to form a national unity government only under the condition of rotating the premiership, would you give up the notion of a national unity government?

[Peres] I think the Likud's demand is wrong.

[Mish'al] Why.

[Peres] Let me explain. About 10 months ago, Mr Shamir summoned us to a discussion about the establishment of a national unity government. Although we were the largest faction in the Knesset — larger than the Likud — we set out from the premise that Mr Shamir would be the one forming and heading the government. The present legal situation is that I have received a mandate from the president. According to the law, it is my duty to form a government and also to head it. There is no other law or way. There is another reason: After all, the Alignment emerged in these elections as the largest party in Israel. The difference between us and the Likud at present is 63,000 votes, far more than the difference in the previous elections.

[Mish'al] Mr Peres, this point is clear. I would like to stress Hayim's question.

[Peres] Before doing that, allow me to say a few more words on this issue. The coalition system does not allow for any way to determine who will head the government other than according to the results of the elections.

[Yavin] Mr Peres, your answer to the notion of rotation is negative. May that be inferred from your remarks?

[Peres] That is correct.

[Mish'al] In other words, there can actually be no compromise with the Likud on this issue, but a compromise may be reached by bridging the ideological gaps.

[Peres] Not just that. In addition to bridging the ideological gaps, the Likud would be properly represented, thus enabling it to be an equal and honorable partner in a government which would be headed by two parties: The Alignment and the Likud.

[Mish'al] I would like to go back to the theme of the chances of establishing a government headed by you. We spoke about a national unity government — you rejected the notion of rotation — and it is doubtful that such a government will come into being. If such a government is not established, what will you do? How will you proceed? What kind of government will you strive for?

[Peres] Look, first of all I would like to reiterate that I will invest my best efforts....

[Mish'al — interrupting] You have already said that.

[Peres] I am repeating it. I think that the economic situation, the problem of Lebanon and the wish to bridge the gaps in the nation lead me in that direction. If such a government does not come into being, I will attempt to establish a government supported by at least 61 Knesset members without relying on parties which do not identify with a minimal part of our program.

[Yavin] You are referring to HADASH and the Progressive List for Peace.

[Peres] Yes, you are correct.

[Yavin] This evening we heard some conflicting reports that the religious parties — the National Religious Party [NRP], Agudat Yisra'el and certainly the other religious parties — will under no circumstances whatsoever agree to support a government relying on the Progressive List for Peace and HADASH.

[Peres] Who says that I have proposed such a thing? I have not made such a proposal.

[Mish'al] This is not the question; let me rephrase it. The religious parties say they will not be ready to join a narrowly-based government headed by you. The question is: Do you think you will succeed in persuading the religious parties?

[Peres] I do not know what a narrowly-based government is.

[Mish'al] One supported by 61 Knesset members.

[Peres] I do not know, your interpretations are premature. What do they suggest that we do? That the Knesset not convene? That the country remain without a government? One must think practically; it is not enough to stand up and object; one must make alternative proposals. Let us say that today there are at least 60 Knesset members who will not support a government headed by the Likud and there may be 61 Knesset members who will agree to us forming a government. I am not striving for a government with 61 voters: I am striving for a government made up of 61 active supporters. I will also ask the religious parties what they propose to the State of Israel. You cannot pass sentence based on an isolated statement.

[Mish'al] I would like to lead you to the question that you may have been slightly shirking....

[Peres — interrupting] No, what you want is to lead me to the reply I do not want to give you.

[Yavin] The inference may be that without the religious parties you do not have a government.

[Peres] I certainly want the religious parties to be part of the government; you are right.

[Yavin] Without them you do not have a government.

[Peres] Without them...[changes thought] decisions are not called for this moment. The religious parties, too, must come up with an answer to the current situation in Israel.

[Mish'al] Until they come up with an answer — and I assume they will give you an answer — I would like to ask you a question to which I would like to receive an unambiguous answer: Will you form a minority government with the support of RAKAH and the Progressive List for Peace?

[Peres] Why do you ask me such a question?

[Mish'al] Because this is the question that keeps coming up today.

[Peres] No, this question was created by the media. You asked me what my wish is and I said that first and foremost I wish for a national unity government....

[Mish'al — interrupting] Well, we are contemplating various possibilities.

[Peres] Pardon me, you may contemplate but I believe that a government made of 61 Knesset members who are active supporters can be established.

[Mish'al] How?

[Peres] With the religious parties.

[Mish'al] But they announced this evening that they are not ready to join you.

[Peres] First of all, one religious party has informed the president that it will accept anybody he entrusts with the task of forming a government. It must now abide by its statement. First of all, things must be cleared up with the Likud and if it turns out that it is impossible to establish a national unity government, we will again enter talks with the religious parties.

[Mish'al] Mr Peres, I would like to remind you that you are the prime minister-designate. Therefore, the questions are being addressed to you. This is a relevant question because the current discussions focus on it.

[Peres] I heard it said today that I am dealing with the establishment of a government made up of 55 Knesset Members and this is not correct. I do not want to give the public the wrong impression. We are talking serious matters here; we are not just conducting exercises for the sake of it.

I repeat it: My first and most determined effort will be to establish a national unity government. I said as much to the president and this is also called for by the current situation and I am very serious about it. Otherwise, I will attempt to set up a government enjoying an active majority.

[Yavin] Mr Peres, to sum up the issue of the religious parties I would simply like to see if we have understood correctly. All you have said clearly leads to the impression that you cannot form a government without the religious parties.

[Peres] First of all, tomorrow or the day after I will appeal to the Likud; you know my order of priorities, and you know what is and what is not possible. For example, yesterday you did not know that we would wake up this morning and have such an agreement. I do not know what is impossible. I set out from the premise that every responsible party will lend a hand to set up a responsible government that will start operating in Israel shortly. Do you really think that the economy can be left like this? Do you really think that the country can be left without a Knesset? I do not think this is my problem or that of my party, I believe this problem is shared by every responsible party in Israel.

[Yavin] One subject which worries large segments of the population is whether you will reduce the budgets of existing settlements?

[Peres] I believe that any government, and a government headed by me also, has no choice but to reduce the budget of new settlements because of economic reasons. Those which already exist must be maintained. We have also a well-known ideological objection to this issue, that is, to the establishment of new settlements in densely-populated Arab areas. We have not changed our opinion.

[Ahime'ir] Another question: If and when you are prime minister, Mr Peres, do you know what will be your first political initiative?

[Peres] The most burning issue is to end our involvement in Lebanon. This has to do with human lives and also with considerable financial expenses, and there is absolutely no doubt that this will be the first issue on the political-security agenda. Second, we will attempt to improve relations with Egypt. By the way, in these two issues we reached a joint draft with the Likud. I am not saying we arrived at a common opinion, but we reached a definition which allows the two parties in these two issues to act, and also — and this depends on the character of the government — we will turn to Jordan and ask it to join the peace process.

[Mish'al] Mr Peres, from the political to the economic area: What operative, and I emphasize, operative steps will you take. Will you ask for an increase in U.S. aid?

[Peres] Yes. We have no choice; the coffers are empty. We have galloping inflation, and I think that we must differentiate between numbers and statistics and the real situation. I see two burning problems which are most worrisome: One is unemployment. We see on television young men or young women just out of the Army in degrading and worrying situations, without work, without bread and future. This is the first problem I will deal with as prime minister, if I am elected to be prime minister: to prevent unemployment and to create centers of employment, especially in the development towns. This is the most worrisome problem because this is a burning and urgent human problem. The second problem is the problem of salaries, and then we must deal with issues which our committee suggested: the budget, increasing production, a long series of issues.

[Yavin] I am sorry to return to the religious question, but this may turn into the main stumbling block. If the religious parties demand as a condition for joining the government the amendment of the Who Is a Jew law, will you agree to this?

[Peres] Look, in the past 2 and 1/2 weeks, since the president gave me the job of forming the government, in my opinion the greatest progress has been in the religious field, surprising as this may seem.

[Yavin] And what about this issue in particular?

[Peres] Just a minute. We agreed — actually, almost all the nonreligious parties, not the antireligious parties — that the status quo based on the existing situation would be the basis for the formation of the next government. Now there are various religious parties. If a broadly-based government is formed, they will have no more demands. If it is a narrow government, they will ask to amend the Who Is a Jew law. I do not see how this can be done. The most the Labor Party can do is offer its members free vote on this issue.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Peres, since you are slated to be prime minister, there are obvious personnel problems, those of portfolios: Was 'Ezer Weizman promised in clear terms the Foreign Affairs portfolio?

[Peres] I prefer to deal with the personnel questions after there is a government, because this depends on the character of the government, and also upon what kind of promises can be given. There is a great deal of difference if a national unity government is established. In my opinion in a national unity government no portfolio can be promised to anybody.

[Mish'al] And in a narrow government?

[Peres] In a narrow government we will discuss this issue. I think 'Ezer Weizman could be foreign minister; 'Ezer Weizman could be finance minister. We will cross this bridge when we reach it.

[Ahime'ir] Did you arrive at any gentleman's agreement which is not in writing on what subject he will deal with in the government?

[Peres] We reached a gentlemen's agreement. I will announce it when we have to form a government.

[Mish'al] Mr Weizman announced here on Mabat that he prefers or wants the foreign affairs portfolio. If this is so, what will happen to Yitzhaq Navon?

[Peres] Yitzhaq Navon is number two on the Alignment list and a top post is slated for him. Here too, it is hard to say; it depends on whether there is a broadly-based or narrowly based government. Gentlemen, I will not hand out portfolios before a government is established and before I know what government will be established.

[Yavin] We are consumed by curiosity. Does Yiga'el Hurvitz have any chance of being finance minister?

[Peres] You are consumed by curiosity? Believe me, I am consumed by other more serious things. First of all, the establishment of a government; then with problem of manning it.

Alignment-Weizman Pact Evokes Strong Reactions

Signing Ceremony Held

TA221619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The leaders of the Labor Party and Yahad a short time ago held a ceremony to sign an agreement on political cooperation. The document states that both parties are linking up to establish a unity government led by the Alignment shortly. If it is not possible to establish such a government, a narrowly based government will be set up. A joint communique by the Alignment, Yahad, and Yiga'el Hurvitz's Ometz stating that they intend to form a government was read at the ceremony.

Shim'on Peres said at the ceremony that 'Ezer Weizman and the Alignment were guided by the wish to unite the nation, heal the economy, revive relations with Egypt, get out of Lebanon, and go ahead with the peace process.

'Ezer Weizman expressed the hope that the agreement will accelerate the establishment of a broadly based government and will enable a solution of the serious problems afflicting the country.

Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that Knesset Member Rafi Edri, who directed the negotiations with Weizman, was holding in his hand a document headlined "Secret", which apparently is the core of the political agreement.

Shamir on Weizman Decision

TA221543 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1430 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The overnight maneuver of the Alignment and 'Ezer Weizman emphasizes the need for a broadly based government, so those forming a government in Israel will no longer depend on such maneuvers. These remarks were made by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir during a special interview with our correspondent 'Oz Frankel:

[Begin recording] [Frankel] Mr Prime Minister, what is the impact of last night's dramatic step by 'Ezer Weizman and the Alignment on the political establishment, and especially on the effort to establish a national unity government?

[Shamir] The overnight maneuver of the Alignment and 'Ezer Weizman did not diminish in any way the need for the establishment of a national unity government. I would say, on the contrary, that it emphasized the urgent need to form such a government based upon the biggest and most important powers in Israel's political arena, and that those who form governments in Israel need not resort to such tricks.

[Frankel] You said today to 'Ezer Weizman that his step put an obstacle in the way of forming a national unity government. What did you mean?

[Shamir] It is clear that when he gave the Alignment the option of forming a narrow government in such a strange way, he increased the influence of those who are trying to avoid the establishment of a national unity government and who prefer a narrow government headed by the Alignment.

[Frankel] Will the Alignment, in your opinion, stop trying to form a wide government and try only to establish a narrow government?

[Shamir] I hope not. I hope that we will see an increase in the sense of responsibility and in the awareness of the nation's need to establish a serious government based on the real forces representing the people. However, after this maneuver I can not be certain of this.

[Frankel] What stands as an obstacle to the establishment of a national unity government at present?

[Shamir] I would not like to state any special obstacles. The negotiations are going on as they should — seriously and perseveringly. The Likud is faithful to its principles and to the country's need for such a government. I think that we are capable — with the goodwill of all sides — at arriving at an agreement on the establishment of such a government.

[Frankel] Would you say that the cardinal question remains the question of who heads this government, the national unity government?

[Shamir] This is one of the questions which must be discussed, but I do not think that there are any unsurmountable obstacles before us.

[Frankel] The suggestion of rotation was raised as a solution, changing the prime ministers. How do you view this issue?

[Shamir] I do not want at this point to address suggestions which were raised in an unofficial way and which were not raised by the sides. This should be discussed in the direct talks between the parties.

[Frankel] It is said that in your last meeting with Weizman he told you that he is thinking of returning home to the Likud. Do you not feel today any bitterness and disappointment after 'Ezer Weizman's step?

[Shamir] I feel no disappointment or bitterness. I assess the situation as it is, and I do not want to return to what 'Ezer Weizman told me or did not tell me. This is of no importance. Only the facts are important, and the facts so far are not especially exhilarating.

[Frankel] Sources in the Likud talked about a knife stuck in the back of the Likud?

[Shamir] Not me. [end recording]

Further Comment

TA221054 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0927 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes that 'Ezer Weizman's latest move has put an obstacle on the road toward forming a national unity government by increasing the Alignment's chances of establishing a narrowly based government. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that in his talk with 'Ezer Weizman, Shamir said: Many in the Alignment prefer the limited option to national unity, and your move has strengthened their position. Shamir added that the Likud will continue its efforts to set up a national unity government.

Likud Reaction

TA221033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] 'Ezer Weizman has said that he signed an agreement with the Alignment in order to accelerate the establishment of a national unity government under Shim'on Peres. After a meeting with the prime minister, Weizman told our correspondent Arye Golan that he had recommended that Yitzhaq Shamir reach an agreement with the Alignment on a unity government quickly. If the attempts to set up such a government fail, he said, he will prefer to join a narrowly based government headed by the Alignment, and may run together with the Alignment if early elections are declared this year. Weizman rejected any talk intimating that he had stabbed the Likud in the back, and noted that he had been expelled from the Herut Movement, which is why he does not owe its members a thing. He emphasized that throughout the election campaign he never explicitly committed himself to favoring anyone, and instead declared that he will decide according to the election results — which is what he did.

Top Likud personalities have said that 'Ezer Weizman decided to join the Alignment in a narrow government to torpedo the chances of establishing a national unity government. They maintain that Weizman was afraid that if a broad-based government is established he would not receive an important portfolio.

Our correspondent has learned that the three Yahad Knesset members have been guaranteed three slots on the Alignment's list for the next Knesset. 'Ezer Weizman will be placed in one of the first five party slots.

Weizman on Meeting With Shamir

TA220920 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0826 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The meeting between 'Ezer Weizman and Yitzhaq Shamir ended a few minutes ago. We are going over to our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel at the prime minister's office.

[Frankel — live] 'Ezer Weizman briefed Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir about his decision to join a parliamentary bloc with the Alignment. Weizman repeated that an attempt should first and foremost be made to form a Peres-led broadly based government with the participation of the Likud and Alignment. At the end of the meeting, for the first time in a long while Weizman was prepared to make comments into the microphone, too:

[Begin recording] [Weizman] I had a meeting with the prime minister. I briefed him about the activities over the past 48 hours, the main one being that we insist that the best and most correct solution for the State of Israel, both in light of the election results and in light of the general situation, is a Likud-Alignment national unity government. Let me here repeat remarks I made both publicly and to the president of the state: The list which won the majority of the votes, namely the Alignment, is the one that should form the national unity government. I do not budge from this position.

[Television reporter Yoram Ronen] What if no national unity government is formed?

[Weizman] Allow me, please. Then, after a month, after the large parties failed to find a common denominator — and I will not be the one to analyze the reasons for this — we decided that taking the present move would be an incentive for reaching a national unity government more quickly. I recommended to the prime minister that, in light of our move and the general situation, he and his Likud colleagues make an effort to reach an agreement with the Alignment as soon as possible and to start working to improve the functioning of the Israeli Government. I hope I did have some influence on him. I am not certain I did.

I hope that a national unity government is formed. If it isn't, however, a government must be established. Then a narrowly based one is possible. It is correct that I said I would prefer to cooperate with the Alignment rather than with the Likud in a narrowly based government, and I do have my reasons for this.

If all the above fails to yield any fruit, I am very afraid — although I still hope this will not be the case — we will have to hold elections very soon, even as soon as in 1984. In sum, I recommended that the prime minister make further efforts — and these are possible — to reach an agreement on a national unity government soonest, and to begin to solve the country's most urgent problems. [end recording]

[Frankel — live] In answer to another question concerning the sharp reactions in the Likud Movement about his decision to join a parliamentary bloc with the Alignment, 'Ezer Weizman said he recommends that terms such as "sticking a knife in the back" be not used.

What next? The Yahad Secretariat will convene in the afternoon to approve the agreement signed with the Alignment. During the additional 21-day period which Peres will apparently receive for his efforts to set up a government, the Yahad Movement will participate in the negotiations on the establishment of a national unity government. The Likud ministers will hold another consultation at the prime minister's office this afternoon, in the wake of the latest political developments.

Levi, Burg, MK Bar'am View Pact

TA230613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi has called the Alignment-'Ezer Weizman agreement and the attempts to set up a narrow government an act of thieves carried out under cover of darkness. Interviewed by the Voice of Israel this morning, he accused the Alignment of coming to the Likud negotiations with an unclear slate, and added that it is proved that all the Alignment wants is to reach power, for which it is ready to do anything.

Knesset Member 'Uzi Bar'am of the Alignment reacted to the above, saying that instead of providing a substantive answer, the statement is instigative. He said that what bothers David Levi is the fact that the Alignment enjoys an edge in its chances to form a government; and David Levi wants the throne to be given to Yitzhaq Shamir. 'Uzi Bar'am also thinks that the Alignment has no intention of establishing a minority government that will rely on RAKAH, and rather wishes to establish a national unity government.

Minister Yosef Burg said that it will be a mistake if Shim'on Peres presents a government that is supported by the extreme left. He again emphasized his belief that it is still possible to set up a national unity government, which is extremely essential.

MAPAM Welcomes Agreement

TA221350 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] MAPAM welcomed the moves by Yahad and Ometz, saying these moves may rid the State of Israel of the Likud's burden. The MAPAM center is going to convene this afternoon to discuss the agreement between the Alignment and Yahad and Ometz.

Abu-Hatzira Agrees to Deal

TA220952 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Knesset Member [MK] Aharon Abu-Hatzira will also join the pact with the Alignment. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that the Labor Party leaders and MK's Weizman and Hurvitz, who have already agreed on a pact with the Alignment, talked on the telephone yesterday with MK Abu-Hatzira, who is abroad. They concluded that TAMI will join the pact following a discussion which will take place in TAMI's offices tomorrow. Aharon Abu-Hatzira is returning from France this evening.

TAMI To Decide on Support

TA230442 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The TAMI secretariat will meet today to decide whether it would be prepared to support a narrow government led by the Alignemnt. Returning to Israel last night, Knesset Member [MK] Aharon Abu-Hatzira said that there was no coordination between him and 'Ezer Weizman before the Yahad Faction signed its agreement with the Alignment. MK Abu-Hatzira believes that a government that will be dependent on the support of RAKAH and the Progressive List for Peace is no better than a Likud government that will rely on Meir Kahane's vote.

SHAS Rabbi Still for Likud

TA230443 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef has reaffirmed that SHAS maintains its unequivocal position, namely, that it will only join a coalition with the Likud. The head of the list, Rabbi Hayim Peretz, talked on the telephone to Rabbi Yosef, who is abroad.

NRP Repeats Support for National Unity Rule

TA230929 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The National Religious Party [NRP] repeated this afternoon that it will only join a national unity government. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that the NRP's negotiating team is currently holding consultations about the situation that has been created in light of the Alignment agreement with 'Ezer Weizman's movement. The opinion favoring joining only a national unity government was supported by all the people who have spoken thus far.

Alignment To Form Government Possibly Next Week

TA221615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The Alignment has decided to make every possible effort to establish a narrowly based government headed by Shim'on Peres as early as next week. Our correspondent has learned that in consultations held by Alignment members today it was decided that after the narrowly based government has been established, negotiations will continue on the establishment of a unity government.

Alignment, Likud Decide on Socioeconomic Policy

TA221305 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1220 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The negotiations between the economic teams of the Likud and the Alignment have ended at the Knesset building. At the end of the negotiations, the heads of the teams announced that a document of basic guidelines in the socioeconomic sphere had been formulated. Two clauses in dispute will be submitted to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres for their decision. Our correspondent Menahem Friedman reports from the Knesset about the resolutions:

[Friedman] The document entitled "Basic Guidelines in the Socioeconomic Sphere" which I am currently holding has just come from the printers. It includes four clauses and I will read all of them:

A. The socioeconomic policy will strive to reduce Israel's economic dependence by reducing the deficit in the balance of payments, increasing exports and cutting imports, stabilizing the economy by curbing inflation, resuming economic growth while maintaining full employment, changing the economic structure by expanding and strengthening production and exports and by paring public and administrative services, activating and expanding settlement areas and development towns throughout the country to effect a just distribution of the burden among all sections of the population, and by regularly maintaining the education, health, and housing systems.

B. To this end, the government will strive to reduce public expenditures and consumption — both civilian and military — and to curb the growth of public consumption; to reach a socioeconomic compact with the Histadrut, the employers and other economic factors; to maintain a policy of revenues and wages which will only rise in the wake of an increase in production and productivity; to encourage all forms of national savings by strengthening confidence in savings and by fulfilling the government's commitments according to the law passed by the Knesset on this issue; to promote and develop the capital market while gradually reducing the government's role in it; to effect a tax reform in order to encourage productivity and to expand tax collection; to justly distribute the tax burden; and to subsidize basic commodities in order to maintain a regular supply and steer agriculture while seeing to it that subsidies represent a defined percentage of the consumer price.

C. The government will strive to expand and make more efficient the infrastructure of technological services, to develop industry, to strengthen agriculture and to expand agricultural exports, to encourage and develop tourism, to maintain a housing policy aimed at absorbing new immigrants and at supplying living quarters to young married couples and large families, to expand the project of rehabilitating the slums and to continue development in the Arab and Druze sectors.

D. The socioeconomic policy will be based on a comprehensive plan which will be announced to the Knesset and the public and which will be effected in a coordinated and constant manner in order to achieve its objectives.

Two clauses remain in dispute: The Alignment's proposal that the principle of national ownership of the land by maintained and the Likud's proposal that efforts should be made to sell business assets owned by the government.

As said, these two clauses will be decided on at a joint meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres.

MAPAM Opposes Agreement

TA231134 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] A few minutes ago at a news conference, Dov Peleg, MAPAM's candidate for a ministerial post, said that MAPAM opposed the economic agreement [sikum] reached by the Alignment and Likud economic teams.

Arens Briefs Knesset Group on Jordan Army

TA221602 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The Knesset's temporary Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee convened today for the first time. Defense Minister Moshe Arens briefed the committee on the military buildup of the Arab armies and said that the Jordanian Army is one of the most modern in the world. Arens also said that the IDF has no plans to evacuate southern Lebanon. Our correspondent in the Knesset Sha'ul Stav reports:

[Begin recording] The first session of the 11th Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee took place today. The chairman of the temporary committee is Knesset Member Hayim Bar-Lev.

The Defense Minister, the chief of staff, the head of the IDF intelligence branch, and the defense establishment's coordinator of activities in southern Lebanon appeared before the committee. This was a large team, which does not usually appear in the sessions of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens addressed the issue of the military buildup of the Arab armies. He said that even if the Jordanian Army is of medium size, its ground forces are some of the most modern in the world. The Jordanians have the most modern tanks and large quantities of night observation equipment.

Regarding Lebanon, the defense minister said that the IDF has no plans to evacuate southern Lebanon. He said that it is easy to leave, even within 24 hours, but the question is what will ensue. Arens said that the situation in southern Lebanon is difficult, the work done there is hard, dangerous and unpleasant. The question is how to prevent this situation from extending to the Galilee. [end recording]

Treasury's Proposed Economic Measures Reported

TA221143 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 22 Aug 84 pp 1, 11

[Shraga Meckel report]

[Text] The following are some of the new economic measures which form part of an economic plan finalized in an all-night marathon held in Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad's office in Jerusalem: Imposing a property tax on apartments and cars, raising the rate of the value added tax, raising the prices of basic commodities and fuel by approximately 50 percent and omitting this factor from the computation of salaries, and abolishing free high school tuition.

It was decided during the meeting to cut more than $1.5 billion from government spending and to impose a series of new taxes.

Due to the absence of parliamentary backing for the government, consideration is being given to passing the new measures by force of special decree in accordance with the emergency regulations, but in any case to impose them soon.

The plan will result in a drop in the standard of living and a rise in unemployment. It will also stem economic activity in Israel, and it is aimed at curbing inflation and improving the balance of payments.

Following are some details that have so far been gleaned from the Treasury's plan:

Property tax: This tax, abolished a few years ago, will be reinstituted. The intention is to impose a 0.5- to 0.75-percent tax on apartments, and a 2- to 4-percent tax on cars. Exempt from this tax will be apartments that are the only ones owned by an individual, or alternatively, apartments worth under $70,000 (for one or more apartments). There is no intention to exempt cars from tax, and even older and small cars will be taxed.

The value added tax will be raised by approximately 2 to 3 percent, from 15 percent to either 17 or 18 percent.

As part of the budget cuts, the Treasury is also proposing doubling university tuition fees from $700 to $1,400 a year.

Parallel to the increased tax burden, collections from income tax will be reduced. The Treasury is contemplating reducing the tax on higher income, which currently stands at 60 percent, to 50 percent. The 66-percent tax brackets for very high incomes will be revoked.

The tax brackets, too, will be updated by approximately 20 percent to eliminate the erosion of the net income. National insurance dues will also be decreased.

Budget: Government expenditures will be cut by more than $1.5 billion, thus actually ending the phenomenon of "money printing." The cuts will cover all government components, especially security and welfare. At the same time, the law guaranteeing free high school tuition will be revoked; the national insurance allowances will be cut; and public payments for services such as medication, municipal services, and the like, will be raised.

Subsidies and prices: As a first step, the government will raise the prices of basic commodities and fuel by about 50 percent, to offset the $200 million used in excess of the subsidies budget since April, that resulted from the slow rate of updating prices. Such a price hike could cause inflation to leap from its already stupefying level of 400 percent annum, yet the Treasury has decided to cut the $200 million from the subsidies, and is hoping to obtain the Histadrut's consent for a "social compact" to prevent the rate of inflation from galloping even faster.

The social compact: In order to prevent inflation from running even wilder, the Finance Ministry wants to eliminate the factor of the rise of prices of subsidized goods and oil from the paycheck, as part of the "social compact." Salaried manpower will be requested to forgo between 5 and 6 percent of the cost-of-living increment so that the perpetual cycle of complementing the rise in prices of subsidized goods and fuel by raising prices across the board will be stopped.

Price freeze: After cutting the subsidies, the Treasury plans to freeze all prices in the economy for a few months, and to impose supervision and regulation of prices. This move, which will be compounded by a budget cut, and large-scale absorption of money from the public thanks to the new taxes, is expected to bring about the curbing of inflation.

Effects on the economy: The new measures are expected to curb inflation and improve the balance of payments by $2 billion within 2 or 3 years. This improvement will be supplemented by moderating economic activity as a result of the budget cuts and the absorption of money from the public, a rise in unemployment, and a drop of some percent in the standard of living.

Kohen-Orgad To Present Plan

TA220953 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The finance minister will ask for the government's approval next week to implement an economic plan and emergency regulations for 3 months. Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that the program will include a $1 billion cut in the state budget, a 5 percent rise in value added tax, the imposition of a purchase tax on cars and apartments, and a change in the income tax brackets. Minister Kohen-Orgad decided to implement the economic measures regardless of the results of the talks on a national unity government. The finance minister and the Likud leaders have discussed with Labor Party leaders the possibility of forming a national unity government shortly in order to implement emergency economic measures. Since there is no guarantee such a government will be formed this month, it was decided to adopt economic measures soon.

Little Chance for Plan Seen

TA230729 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
23 Aug 84 pp 1, 7

[Avi Temkin report]

[Excerpt] The new economic plan that Finance Minister Yig'al

Kohen-Orgad intends to present to the government next week is probably doomed from the outset, and has little chance of being approved before any new government is formed, coalition and opposition members agreed yesterday.

Senior members of the Liberal Party, including Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i and Industry Minister Gid'on Pat, have already informed Kohen-Orgad that under no circumstances will they agree to the imposition of a property tax, as proposed by the Treasury.

Additional opposition to the Treasury's plans is expected from Deputy Prime Minister David Levi. Levi's attitude was hinted at in his announcement during yesterday's talks betweeen the Likud and Alignment economic teams that he plans to raise the Treasury's refusal to adjust the brackets at Sunday's Cabinet meeting.

Kohen-Orgad has tried during the past three days to enlist the Alignment's support for his plans, but all he could get was a promise from the head of the Labour Party economic team, Knesset Member Gad Ya'aqobi, that his party will deal with each one of the proposed steps "on its merits."

Alignment sources said yesterday that the party will probably oppose the proposed increase in the tax burden, including the planned increase in value added tax and the introduction of new taxes.

But the sources also indicated that the finance minister, the rest of the Cabinet and the opposition are more or less in agreement on the issue of subsidies. So the Finance Ministry may go ahead with plans for large increases in controlled prices, even if the rest of the programme it has drafted is scrapped.

Two Religious Settlements Established in Samaria

TA211327 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Aug 84 p 18

[Mordekhay Elqan report]

[Text] A new communal religious settlement called Pedu'el was established yesterday near the ruins of the ancient fortress of Khirbat Dayr Qal'ah in Samaria. A religious communal settlement called Karme Zur, whose residents will move in next month, has been established south of Gush 'Ezyon about 3 km from the northern approaches to Halhul in the Hebron Hills.

The two new settlements belong to the Hapo'el-Hamizrahi association of moshvim. A nucleus of 18 families settled in Pedu'el yesterday in trailers.

The new settlement has some 1,000 dunams and has been planned to accomodate 250 young couples. A small area of only 80 dunams has been initially set aside for the Karme Zur settlement.

Next month a nucleus of 22 young couples will settle there, whose leaders are members of the Kokhava nucleus who completed their studies at the Hesder Yeshiva in Allon Shevut in Gush 'Ezyon.

Druze Leader Boycotts Golan Religious Fetes

TA220856 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0505 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The leader of the Druze community in Israel, Shaykh Amin Tarif, has adopted an unprecedented measure: He is boycotting religious celebrations which are slated to take place on the Golan Heights at the end of the week. This move by Shaykh Tarif was made in the wake of the ongoing rivalry and hostility among the Golan Druze between the pro-Israeli and pro-Syrian Druze. The religious and social boycott on the Golan is continuing and a number of pro-Israeli Druze families are considering the possibility of leaving their villages and coming to live in the Galilee or in the Karmel.

Druze Support Tarif

TA230728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0652 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Many Druze religious leaders in the western Galilee villages and from the Karmel Mount area have decided to boycott the religious ceremonies scheduled to take place on Saturday near the burial site of their prophet (Ya'furi) in the northern part of the Golan Heights. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that the decision has come as a reaction to the measures taken by Golan clerics against Druze who hold Israeli citizenship in the Golan villages.

Earlier, Shaykh Amin Tarif, the spiritual leader of the sect in Israel, also announced his intention to refrain from participating in the planned ceremonies, although he will continue to handle the routine affairs of the Golan Druze.

Nephew Denies Meeting Junblatt

TA221125 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
22 Aug 84 p 4

[Yehuda Tzur report]

[Text] Captain (reserves) Kamal Tarif, who is Shaykh Amin Tarif's nephew yesterday denied reports broadcast on Lebanese radio that he had met with Walid Junblatt and tried to persuade him to oppose the deployment of the Lebanese Army units in the Ash-Shuf mountains.

According to the Lebanese reports, Kamal Tarif, who arrived in Ash-Shuf accompanied by another group of Christians, recommended that the Druze leader oppose the attempts made by the Lebanese Army to expand its control, even if this leads to a military clash.

Kamal Tarif told our correspondent yesterday that he had not spent any time in Lebanon at all recently, and consequently did not meet with Walid Junblatt. He claimed that he actually favors Christian-Druze coexistence in Lebanon, so that it does not stand to reason that he would recommend stepping up the tension between the two sides. He added that if he had gone to Lebanon, this would have been done only with the consent and support of the Government of Israel.

It should be noted that two interviews with Junblatt were published in the past 2 days, from which one could gather that he is relying on Israel's tacit support for his moves in the Ash-Shuf area, and for his objection to allowing the Lebanese Army and the Phalangists to take up positions there.

Six Druze youths who are studying in the (Al-Bidah) higher education college in Hasbayya have crossed the borders and are currently in the Ash-Shuf region. Israeli sources complained about this to associates of Shaykh Tarif, who had granted his approval for the studies to ten Druze youths this year. It has been learned that Shaykh Nur ad-Din Halabi, a clerical Druze judge, has been in the Ash-Shuf for a few days and has conferred with the religious leadership there.

Government Accused of Abandoning Golan Druze

TA220956 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 22 Aug 84

[From the review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* writes that something terrible is taking place on the Golan: Pro-Syrian Druze are carrying out a pogrom against their brethren who obtained Israeli citizenship. The paper charges that the Israeli Government is playing the ostrich and abandoning our Golan friends to those who seek their lives. The paper believes we have already abandoned Judaea and Samaria to the terrorists, thus giving rise to a Jewish underground engaging in self-defense. *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* asks whether we need another underground, this time composed of the Druze we have abandoned.

Jordan Effecting New West Bank Educational Moves

TA221406 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
22 Aug 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] Jordan has begun making new moves in the educational sphere in the West Bank. Thus, the involvement of the Amman higher education council in the affairs of the West Bank colleges and universities has been particularly noticeable.

Strict instructions regarding humanities studies in the colleges have been sent to the West Bank, in a bid to effect cuts there so that they do not become new university campuses, but are rather reduced to the size of regular high schools. These are apparently the lessons Jordan has learned from the fact that the West Bank universities have become PLO strongholds. Our correspondent has also learned that Jordan is withholding financial aid to the Hebron university, demanding that the board of trustees expel three members considered to be PLO supporters. The "comprehensive examination" of the graduates of high schools and colleges continued to be administered throughout the West Bank yesterday. This is a Jordanian exam, the distribution of which was stopped in the past few years by opponents of Jordan in the West Bank. The examination passed quietly in various towns, but in Ramallah, for the 2d day running, the students refused to take the tests.

Al-Awwali Bridge To Remain Closed 23 Aug

TA230419 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The Batir ash-Shuf crossing will remain closed today, as the repair work being done there has not been completed. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Engineering Corps units have been working feverishly there, and the crossing will probably reopen tomorrow.

State-Owned Land Expropriation Said Continuing

TA221100 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
22 Aug 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] The expropriation of "state-owned" land throughout Judaea and Samaria is continuing. 100 dunams were expropriated in the vicinity of Battir in the Jerusalem hills. Families residing in the village claim that the territory belongs to them.

Court Orders Construction Halt in West Bank Town

TA230928 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The High Court of Justice has issued an interim injunction forbidding continuation of construction activity in the Samaria town of 'Immanu'el. The decree was issued at the request of a local inhabitant, who claims ownership of the plot. The man said that earlier injunctions the High Court of Justice had issued on the matter had not been observed.

Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that during today's court hearing, too, the counselor for the prosecution also expressed his doubts as to whether the regional military commander would be able to enforce the injuction. President of the Supreme Court, Me'ir Shamgar, responded to this by saying that it is inconceivable that the military commander, who is simultaneously the legislative and executive body in the region, should not fulfill the instructions issued by the Supreme Court. He instructed the representative of the prosecution to make sure the injunction reaches the hands of everyone involved.

Rabin Denies Deal With Likud on IDF Withdrawal

TA221639 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Knesset Member Yitzhaq Rabin has made it clear that the accord with the Likud about the policy a unity government should adopt in Lebanon does not include a timetable for the IDF's pullout. Rabin was replying to statements by Knesset Members Sarid and Shem-Tov at a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that if the two large parties reached an agreement about Lebanon they should immediately formulate a plan to get out of that country.

Lubrani Rejects Harassment Charges in South Lebanon

TA221807 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The Lebanese Government is to complain to the UN Security Council about Israeli activities in south Lebanon. Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that what has been going on was the ugliest of occupations. Reporter Alan Ben-'Ami asked Israel's coordinator of activities in Lebnaon, Uri Lubrani, for his reaction to charges that Israel is cutting south Lebanon off from the rest of the country and exploiting this region's resources.

[Begin recording] [Lubrani] It is part of the trumped up charges which we believe have been prepared for a United Nations session, or rather a Security Council session concerning Lebanon. It has nothing to do with the facts.

[Ben-'Ami] Nevertheless, the bridges across the Al-Awwali are closed. Two of them are virtually inoperative; a third has been closed now for 2 or 3 days.

[Lubrani] Well, it is going to be opened tomorrow with arrangements which should improve the convenience for the passing pedestrians and for the checking of the vehicles which will be coming through these passes.

[Ben-'Ami] What about the claims that Israel is exploiting the water of southern Lebanon. The Al-Litani river, the (?Az-Zahrani)?

[Lubrani] Absolutely untrue. This is not the first time we are accused of this thing, and there is not an iota of truth about it.

[Ben-'Ami] What work is going on in fact? Areas have been fenced up around the (?Az-Zahrani) creek for example?

[Lubrani] These were directed at improving the ability of our security forces to prevent infiltration from Lebanon to Israel, and particularly infiltration connected with the smuggling of narcotics. [end recording]

Uri Lubrani also denied that Israel was making life difficult for the authorities in south Lebanon because the Lebanese Government had closed Israel's liaison office in Beirut. Lubrani said there was no impediment to Lebanese Government officials operating if their work was concerned with the daily life of the population. Israel does not want to create any undue difficulties for the south Lebanese, he said.

Lebanese Forces Envoy Criticizes Policy

TA211342 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Aug 84 p 1

[Report by political affairs correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The head of the Lebanese Forces Representation in Jerusalem, which operates under the auspices of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, has sharply criticized Israel and its decisionmakers for their Lebanese policy. Pierre Yazbik, the head of the representation, has published a "Letter From Lebanon," which has also been translated into Hebrew and English for Israeli and international media and for diplomatic representatives. Among other things, he said that "despite repeated warnings by us, the Druze and the Shi'ites took advantage of Israel in order to strengthen their position as Syria's allies, and thereby strengthen Syria's position in Lebanon at the expense of the Christians." Yazbik also holds Israel responsible for the return of the terrorists to Beirut and other parts of Lebanon: "If the PLO has returned,...(it) is because of the inability of Israeli decisionmakers and many Western leaders to understand this region."

Yazbik claims that the terrorists are returning to Beirut and from there are extending their activities to every possible area. According to him: "We are witnessing the complete renewal of the atmosphere and infrastructure that existed prior to the 1982 operation." He claims that on several occasions "we warned Israeli leaders and decisionmakers about their policy — a policy of complete support for the Druze and later, the Shi'ites...but we always ran into scepticism.... Junblatt's position and Nabih Birri's daily attacks on Israel illustrate how 'productive and successful' this policy of openness toward other Lebanese sects was." This policy was implemented by several Israeli strategists and experts and was encouraged by the United States. Yazbik claims that the terrorists are returning to Beirut with the active support of the Shi'ites.

Top sources in the Defense Ministry yesterday reacted with amazement and anger to Yazbik's article, which was published in Jerusalem. As is well known, Defense Minister Moshe Arens supports a policy of strengtherning ties between Israel and the Shi'ites and Druze in southern Lebanon. A top security source, who heard about the publication from a *HA'ARETZ* correspondent, said that the issue will be examined right away with Foreign Ministry officials, under whose auspices Yazbik and his men operate in Jerusalem.

It has been learned that these publications have also reached foreign embassies in Israel and abroad. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the ministry has no intention of arguing with Yazbik over the newspaper articles. However, he emphasized that the Foreign Ministry remains committed to its good relations with the Christian Lebanese Forces Representation in Jerusalem.

Growing 'Terrorist' Presence in Lebanon Viewed

TA221020 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
22 Aug 84 p 2

[Report by military correspondent Eytan Haber]

[Text] For the first time since their expulsion from Beirut 2 years ago, the terrorists are returning and setting up military units in the Lebanese capital. Travelers who have arrived from Beirut have reported that terrorists can again be seen roaming the streets of Burj al-Barajinah, Sabra, Shatila, and Al-Fakihani, toting their guns in the open, and that they are organized in military organizations.

Up until a few weeks ago, the terrorists' activity in Beirut was strictly surreptitious. The number of terrorists who are believed to have returned to Beirut so far is estimated at 2,000, and they have been returning via sea, air, and land.

Beirut has again assumed its position as the center of terrorism, with arms depots — although not huge ones — reerected there. The terrorist organizations have resumed their ties with the Soviet Union.

The number of terrorists who are staying in Lebanon to date is estimated at somewhere between 7,000 and 8,000, according to the following breakdown: In Tripoli — 2,000; in Al-Biqa' — 2,500; in the Ash-Shuf — 1,500; and in the metropolitan Beirut area — 2,000. A number of the terrorists — a small number for the moment — are training in terrorist operations.

According to various assessments, the terrorist organizations' ability to conduct strike operations was either unharmed by the Lebanon war, or was only slightly affected. All in all, the terrorists suffered approximately 1,500 casualties — active terrorists who were either killed, or wounded, or captured.

Some of the terrorists are still in their countries of exile, following their expulsion from Beirut. Some countries disarmed them and are not allowing them to train, whereas in other countries they are permitted to train, and their living conditions are even better.

At this stage the terrorist organizations have no open transmitters in the Beirut area, but the assessment is that nearly all the terrorist organizations — including Yasir 'Arafat's supporters — have secret commands. According to various reports, several terrorist leaders have already visited West Beirut, among them Ahmad Jibril and Abu Nidal. The two, and perhaps other terrorist leaders as well, left Beirut immediately after their visits for fear of the Lebanese Army, the Lebanese security services, or the Phalangists.

Lately the terrorists have been putting great emphasis on developing their naval power, assuming that this remains virtually the only way to operate against Israel. The naval force belongs mainly to 'Arafat's Fatah. The main bulk of the maritime force can be found in the Red Sea area, hence the assumption — evidently refuted — that the terrorists are responsible for laying the mines in the Red Sea. Incidentally, the terrorists in the Red Sea area — in North and South Yemen — are enjoying a particularly close cooperation with the local governments.

It is believed that the terrorists plan to carry out demonstrative acts in the near future. One of these planned attacks was foiled when the terrorists attempted to penetrate the Israeli coasts on rubber boats and carry out an operation similar to the one known as the "bloody bus incident" along the coastal road. According to foreign sources, the terrorists also tried to blow up El Al baggage by using booby-trapped suitcases, but this, too, failed.

A large share of the terrorists' efforts are aimed at attacks against the IDF soldiers in Lebanon. Although these acts are carried out mainly by the Shi'ites, all the terrorist organizations without exception participate in them as well.

The assessment is that the Lebanon war truly hit the terrorist organizations, especially in terms of morale. The terrorist organizations have forfeited their territorial hold over Lebanon, as well as their ability to threaten the north of Israel. Yet they enjoy their political right of veto. Even today, 2 years after the Lebanon war, Arab elements are not prepared to enter into any negotiations with Israel without the PLO.

Thus it is believed that the PLO's political clout has not diminished, and that when it comes to terrorist activity, the PLO still has the control and ability to perpetrate acts in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District.

At the same time, the final opinion is that the PLO has not yet overcome the serious internal struggle it has been embroiled in, and it is believed that the chances are only slim that the terrorist organizations will resume their proportions and status in Lebanon, and recover their pre-war position.

Beirut Efforts in South Lebanon Viewed

TA220656 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The representatives of the Karami government have tried to make use of the closure of the Al-Awwali bridge to organize demonstrations and strikes in southern Lebanon, in protest against what they defined as Israel's settling and entrenching itself in southern Lebanon. However, our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the southern Lebanese residents have not rushed into the streets. At the same time, though, the wage of anti-IDF terrorist attacks has not stopped. A grenade was thrown at an IDF patrol at the entrance to Sidon. There were no casualties.

[Begin recording] Karami's official envoys in southern Lebanon have made considerable efforts since the beginning of the week to organize a civilian uprising in Sidon, Tyre, and An-Nabatiyah. However, the large-scale uprising effort did not even amount to a small demonstration. The governor of the south, Halim Fayyad, has learned that Shi'ite farmers in southern Lebanon do not even feel the Al-Awwali bridge has been closed for 3 years. As far as they are concerned, the north has been a separate entity for over a year now. This, incidentally, does not contradict their hatred for the IDF soldiers.

The southern Lebanese notables are immune to slogans such as Israel's northern bank. They should be addressed with the elite Beirut jargon, namely, money, cash. And indeed, Karami's envoys have been paying visits to the southern Lebanese notables for a number of weeks now, making promises of huge sums of money. The money, according to the envoys, was obtained by Karami during his last tour in Saudi Arabia. Some 430 million Lebanese pounds have been promised to Sidon and Jazzin for the building of a highway to connect the two towns. Tyre, Jazzin,and Marj 'Uyun were visited by the representatives of the Lebanese Health Ministry. These representatives visited hospitals there, promising generous financial grants. However, as I was told by a Jazzin physician: Nothing has come of this yet; Karami has not yet opened his wallet and every time this man headed the Beirut government the south was forgotten and neglected.

Jerusalem sources dismissed Karami's efforts in southern Lebanon. We are not in southern Lebanon to run an administration there; we will welcome any development enterprise by the Beirut government, they said. In the meantime, the sources stressed, Karami is following the dictates of Damascus. [end recording]

South Lebanese Army Said Replacing IDF Guards

TA221112 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 22 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] Soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon have begun replacing IDF soldiers in guarding two central junctions in the eastern sector of Lebanon.

The transfer was made possible thanks to the relative quiet prevailing in that area. However, the IDF soldiers will initially still remain at the junctions together with the army of southern Lebanon personnel. This was reported by the IDF publication, *BAMAHANE*.

IDF Returns to Territory

TA221104 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 22 Aug 84 pp 1, 11

[Menahem Rahat and Yosef Walter report]

[Text] The IDF has regained control over certain areas of southern Lebanon it recently transferred to the army of southern Lebanon.

This step was taken in light of the increased incidence of hostile acts on the part of the Christian population — aided by the soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon — and the local Muslim population.

Even as it was handing over responsibility and control over certain areas of southern Lebanon to the army of southern Lebanon, the IDF continued to regard itself as bearing the ultimate responsibility for the well-being of the local inhabitants. Thus the army of southern Lebanon was entrusted only with seeing to routine security matters conducted under the supervision and guidance of the IDF. The general guidelines and policy effected by the IDF and the government are to reach a point at which the IDF will be able to hand over all of southern Lebanon to the army of southern Lebanon, as a precondition for its withdrawal from the territory.

It turns out that the transfer of some areas to the hands of the army of southern Lebanon — primarily Muslim areas — was premature. In some places the army of southern Lebanon's soldiers complied with initiatives of local Christians, and raided Muslim villages and Palestinian camps as an act of revenge.

Although all these incidents ended with no casualties, they ended only after the IDF soldiers intervened, after having been summoned to separate the warring parties. In some cases the rivals even used arms. This happened in the extremist Shi'ite village of 'Arab Salim, from where the attackers of the IDF convoy 6 months ago came, and killed two of our soldiers. There has been mounting hostility against the IDF there, and it was later extended to include the soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon as well, for having imposed a prolonged curfew on the village. Many Shi'ite youths from that village have launched a number of attacks, blessed by the local religious leader who is considered a prime instigator against the IDF and the army of southern Lebanon in the region.

Even after control over the 'Arab Salim area was transferred to the army of southern Lebanon, several Christian inhabitants recently assaulted the village, spreading fear and harassment, probably with the tacit encouragement of the army of southern Lebanon. Among other things, they shot only in order to strike terror. The villagers fled and returned only after the IDF intervened.

There were similar cases in other places controlled by the army of southern Lebanon — and this was the background for the decision to recover control from them in the areas where those incidents took place. In places where the army of southern Lebanon succeeded in maintaining calm, the army of southern Lebanon was allowed to maintain "exclusive" control.

The war in Lebanon has not curbed the terrorist organization's momentum, as units in charge of terrorist attacks were either unharmed or only somewhat affected.

Contrary to the situation that prevailed until the Lebanon war, today the prime element in the PLO is the military branch, as the significance of the attacks against the IDF units in Lebanon has risen. The PLO's political standing in the international arena, on the other hand, has suffered a setback.

The terrorists are currently operating against the IDF by small-scale warfare, but the number of incidents is on the rise. The terrorists are incorporating local organizations in southern Lebanon, and they wish to demonstrate that the Peace for Galilee operation has not achieved its goals. They are trying to hit the northern settlers of Israel and carry out demonstrative acts inside Israel and Lebanon.

The terrorists also want to operate abroad, and this trend is expected to continue in the near future, too.

Currently there are approximately 8,000 terrorists in Lebanon: 2,000 in the Tripoli area; 2,500 in the Al-Biqa' area; in the mountain and Ash-Shuf area there are some 1,300; and more than 2,000 in the Beirut environs. Up until February, most of the organizations operated surreptitiously but because of the Druze-Christian clashes and the fact that the terrorists have found their way into the leftist organizations, they are currently operating in open military units. Jordan has recently begun to absorb terrorists, doing this as part of its dialogue with Fatah. Thus far, Amman has accepted terrorists who belonged to the "Badr Power" that led the Palestine Liberation Army. These terrorists can now be found in a permanent camp in Jordan. At the same time, the Jordanian monarch continues to prevent hostile terrorist activity against Israel from Jordanian territory.

IDF Return Denied

TA221631 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The IDF plans to hand over other areas in southern Lebanon to the forces of General Antoine Lahd shortly. This was stated today by IDF officers in southern Lebanon in a meeting with Gen Lahd. They expressed their appreciation for his army's performance of daily security duties.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that military sources in southern Lebanon have categorically denied reports that the IDF is returning to areas which it had recently handed over to the army of southern Lebanon. They also denied that there had been incidents in which soldiers of this army had fled from the reach of Shi'ite inhabitants.

Romania Invites Israel to Liberation Fete

TA231132 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The Bucharest government has officially invited Israel to participate in the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of Romania's liberation from the Nazis. Our correspondent report that it has been decided that the Israeli Ambassador in Bucharest will represent Israel at the ceremonies.

Editorial Lauds Romania on Anniversary

TA221517 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 22 Aug 84 p 7

[Second editorial: "Romania As It Celebrates"]

[Text] These days Romania is celebrating the 40th anniversary of its liberation from fascism. And although the absolute Communist takeover came a little bit later, this is still a good occasion to take stock of the four decades of the new regime. During that period, Romania experienced successes and failures. The collectivization of agriculture and the conversion of this backward agricultural country into an industrially strong country have caused problems in the area of consumption and supply. Friction with the large Hungarian minority in Transylvania has not been eliminated and, compared to other Communist countries, no liberalization of the domestic administration has taken place in Bucharest.

At the same time, more than the other people's democracies, Romania has successfully maintained its independence within the Warsaw Pact, without jeopardizing its vital ties with the Soviet superpower. This policy has been underscored during the 20 years of Ceausescu's rule, and it has also been manifested in the positions Romania embraced in the Soviet-Sino conflict, in international conferences on disarmament, and in the UN General Assembly. Romania's participation in the Los Angeles Olympics was another demonstration of this policy. Naturally, Romania is expecting the United States to reciprocate by expanding trade, and is hopeful of obtaining most-favored-nation-status.

From the Israeli standpoint, Romania's greatest achievement is its decision not to join the countries that severed diplomatic relations with us following the 6-day war; these countries might be regretting this move today. Despite the deep differences of opinion on the future of the territories and on the Palestinian issue, Israeli-Romanian ties have developed in commerce, tourism, and culture, and the president of that country has also made his own contribution to the peace process. The Romanian Jewish community is active in the religious, social, and cultural areas, although immigration has experienced ups and downs. Yet, one must never forget that ultimately hundreds of thousands of Jews have immigrated from Romania over the 2 score years, and that Romanian Jews constitute one of the largest communities in Israel. Together with the rest of the citizens of Israel, we wish Romania prosperity and peace on this day of celebration.

Egyptian Citizen Jailed for Crossing Border

TA230932 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Aug 84 p 3

[Eytan Rabin report]

[Text] Yesterday the Elat magistrates' court sentenced an Egyptian citizen, (Shahta Khalifa Musa), who crossed the border and infiltrated into Elat the day before yesterday, to a month in jail and 6 months suspended prison sentence. The Egyptian citizen was arrested by the security forces, and at his interrogation he said he was a Muslim who adhered to his faith's precepts and had decided to go to Mecca. He said he had intended to pass through Elat on his way to Saudi Arabia. After interrogation by the security forces the Egyptian was tranferred to a detention area.

The Elat police submitted an indictment within 24 hours and the court yesterday sentenced the accused to a month in jail.

The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent comments that to this moment the Egyptian Consul in Elat has not been informed of the Egyptian citizen's arrest. In reply to a question, the consul said he knew nothing about the affair. Last night military sources pointed out that Israel was not bound to inform the Egyptian Consul about a citizen's arrest and that there were procedures for dealing with such cases. The sources commented that a female officer in the national headquarters reports of arrests of foreign citizens to embassies in Israel.

The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent points out that Egyptian elements did not know of the suicide of an Egyptian citizen, Fawzi Abdal Malik, in a detention cell in the Elat police station a few months ago and, following this incident, the Egyptian Consul had been promised that he would be informed of similar arrests.

Egypt To Return 3 Boats to Elat Residents

TA211311 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Aug 84 p 2

[Yehudit Zilberstein report]

[Text] Three boats belonging to Elat residents which were confiscated several months ago by the Egyptian Coast Guard will be returned today to Elat via the border terminal in Tabah.

The boatowners were charged at the time with infiltrating into Egyptian territorial waters off the Sinai Peninsula. After paying a fine, the boatowners were returned to Elat.

The Egyptians have held the boats all this time but today they will be returned to their owners.

Analyst Favors Widening Third World Relations

TA211621 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Aug 84 p 8

[Shmu'el Segev commentary: "Africa: The Pro's and the Con's"]

[Text] The visit by two Nigerian tribal leaders and the tremendous efforts by the Foreign Ministry to resume ties with African and Asian countries divide the "political colony" in Israel into two distinct camps. One camp, led by Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and the director general of his office, David Kimche, favors increasing efforts in order to extricate Israel from its isolation in the international arena. The other camp, which includes all those expelled from Africa, claim, on the contrary, that the effort is not worth the investment, and that Israel must decide its priorities on the basis of its economic potential.

This is a legitimate debate and it should receive public examination. This debate is justified not only because of the economic angle, but primarily because of the political angle. After all, even the most ardent devotees of the camp that advocates resuming ties with Africa do not expect the "millennium," and they too take into consideration situations in which politically inspired voting — in the United Nations or any other international institution — contradicts the character of economic and practical ties.

The camp rejecting the development of relations with the Third World bases its opinions on emotional arguments. Ambassadors who have served in Africa, some Knesset members, and party activists claim that when they were most needed — on the eve and during the Yom Kippur War — Asian and African countries did not come to Israel's aid. One after another, however, they severed ties with Israel. The members of this camp claim that Third World countries constantly vote against Israel and it does not look as though this situation is likely to change in the foreseeable future. They raise the formal argument that the country which initiated the move to sever relaions should be the one to initiate their resumption. Finally, they claim that "Israel is past its adolescence" and that it must no longer agree to "under-the-table relations," but only full public diplomatic relations. In light of the economic problems in particular, Israel must be more selective in its relations with Asian and African countries and exert efforts only in those countries whose friendship is promised beforehand.

With all due respect to those holding these opinions, I cannot count myself as a disciple of this camp. If Israel set its policy according to emotional arguments, it is conceivable that it would not have achieved what it achieved in the sixties and seventies. It is this pragmatism which characterized Israeli foreign policy between the "Qadesh" operation [the 1956 Sinai campaign] and the Yom Kippur War that allowed Israeli diplomacy to take off and plant roots in countries near and far. Moreover, Israel's loneliness in the international arena in the decade following the Yom Kippur War extended even to friendly countries in Europe and North America. The Americans often asked the Israelis: "Who, apart from the United States, supports you in the world?" This question, which was sometimes asked in a tone of reproach and sometimes out of concern, had profound political implications and emphasizes the extent to which Israel depends on its main ally. Therefore, any effort bringing about the decrease of this dependence and the widening of the circle of Israel's diplomatic relations serves Israel's national interest.

So much for the principle of the issue concerned. However, there are some practical considerations that justify the efforts made to resume relations with Asian and African countries and to strengthen ties with Latin America. In a world governed by the principle of interdependence, Israel cannot remain "a people living apart," and it must widen the variety of its allies and blaze trails in new countries. This can be seen in the ties established so far with Asian and African countries which have proven very fruitful as far as Israel is concerned. In contrast to the past, most of the aid Israel gives to developing countries at present is given in exchange for full payment or is repaid with funds provided by various international organizations. The slight improvement in the status of some of African countries has increased their buying power and opened new markets to Israeli exports. Following the loss of the Iranian market, Israeli diplomacy has shown great initiative and has offered Israeli exporters new markets allowing for exports of $200 million this year, and has awarded Israeli businesses contracts worth more than $2 billion.

However, the expansion of relations is important primarily from the political aspect. Ever since the Yom Kippur War, it has been emphasized time and time again that the oil-producing states, led by Saudi Arabia, can dictate to foreign countries political steps in relation to Israel. Israel's isolation for more than a decade was the result of Arab economic power, which was translated into clearly defined political terms. All the efforts by Israel through the Jewish lobby in the United States and through its allies in the Arab world were unsuccessful in breaking through this wall of isolation.

However, in the last year there has been some erosion in the status of the Arab states, and Israel adroitly and cleverly took advantage of it. The surplus of oil in the world, the resultant lowering of prices, the financial commitments undertaken by the oil states as a result of the war in the Persian Gulf, the aid given by various international groups to the developing countries, and the improvement in some of these countries — all these things increased the ability of Third World countries to resist the Arab countries' power of extortion. Israel must welcome this development and must do all it can to increase the erosion in the political positions of the Arab oil states. Developing ties with African and Asian countries and encouraging their leaders to withstand Arab pressures therefore serve Israeli national interests and demand that efforts be continued, regardless of the various critics.

Sri Lankan Official Elaborates on Israeli Aid

TA220637 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Aug 84 pp 1, 2

[Diplomatic correspondent David Landau report]

[Text] Israel's security assistance to Sri Lanka is not the sole basis of the recent improvement of relations between the two countries, but it did trigger the improvement in the relationship, according to a senior Sri Lankan official now on a private visit to Israel. Israel has recently established an interests section in the U.S. Embassy in Colombo, after many years of no diplomatic ties at all.

Douglas Liyanage, secretary of the Ministry of State, told *THE JERUSALEM POST* yesterday that his country is benefiting from "Israel's large volume of experience and expertise" in the field of anti-terrorist intelligence.

He confirmed an official statement issued in Jerusalem on Monday that only five Israeli government officials, all non-military, are now in Sri Lanka — two diplomats and three agricultural experts. He was vague about the identity and status of Israelis aiding in the anti-terrorist effort. Liyanage noted that his government is also being aided by a group of British "professionals," former members of crack Army units. This group had previously served in Oman, he said.

While both Britain and the U.S. sympathize with Sri Lanka's fight against terrorist tactics by Tamil secessionists, Liyanage said, they are reluctant to become involved directly, for fear of clashing with India. He said that the Tamil guerrillas are closely and constantly supported by seaborne infiltration from southern India. There are some 50 million Tamils in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, 35 kilometers across the water from Sri Lanka.

Liyanage stressed that Israeli security experts have not been involved in sea patrols or in any other operational activity. Rather, he said, they have contributed to improving Sri Lanka's intelligence effort in the civil strife.

"We are quite capable of dealing with internal violence — and have had to prove it from time to time," Liyanage said. "But now the violence we face has taken on an aspect of international terrorism. Operations are being directed from outside our borders — particularly, as we maintain, from southern India.

"Indeed, recent bombings show a level of expertise not available in Sri Lanka or in India.

"This is an area in which we are not expert. So we have sought assistance from knowledgeable people."

Liyanage declined to say whether Sri Lanka had approached other governments before turning to Israel. He contended that since Sri Lanka was seeking from Israel "expertise, not manpower," India ought not to be perturbed.

He dismissed British press reports that Israelis have been somehow involved in recent excesses committed by government forces against Tamil villages. His government, he said, had no need or desire for assistance in such atrocities: on the contrary, it sought, not always successfully, to prevent them from happening.

As secretary of the Ministry of State, Liyanage's role in the Colombo government embraces that of chief censor and senior spokesman. He is also involved in ecology and tourism.

He acknowledged that Sri Lanka is under strong pressure from Arab countries because of its ties with Israel. "But we stand up to it. All the Arab states, and the PLO, have embassies in Colombo. There is no reason not to have equality with Israel."

In practice, though, Liyanage does not see the diplomatic ties with Israel rising to full embassy level in the near future. "The main thing," he said, "is that we have a basis for a dialogue which was absent for the past 14 years. The dialogue will evolve around mutual assistance."

Liyanage, who for years was a senior rural administrator, said he was amazed by techniques of agriculture and irrigation he had been shown here.

Though his visit is private, he met with Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche, and toured the Volcani Institute and rural projects. He said he would report back to Colombo that Israeli expertise in arid-zone agriculture could certainly aid Sri Lankan farmers.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Chairs Political Bureau Meeting

LD212252 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] The party Political Bureau met today at the presidential headquarters under the chairmanship of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN Party. After listening to a report by the National Committee on preparing the celebrations to mark the 30th anniversary of the liberation revolution the Political Bureau recorded the progress of work on this matter. In light of the report submitted by the National Committee entrusted with the task of studying some dossiers and events connected with the march of the revolution the president of the republic and secretary general of the party has decided the following:

1. To set up working groups of specialists for studying the most important events and incidents which have a link with the march of the armed revolution to remove the ambiguities, vagueness and suspicion or falsehood or deviation for the sake of placing them in their real framework.

2. To reinstate into the ranks of the FLN and the National Liberation Army every mujahidin and struggler who as a result of the difficult circumstances of the armed struggle or the pressure and complications through which the revolution passed was exposed to harrassment, covert trial, or execution, provided that he has not taken up arms against the revolution or joined the side of the enemy or had any dealing with any foreign side for the purpose of harming the revolution.

3. To return the remains of all mujahidin officials who were buried outside the national soil, whatever the causes and restrictions which prevented this from taking place, so that they can be buried alongside the other martyrs.

4. To grant full pardon for the mujahidin who had become involved in various political issues since independence, but with due respect to the methods and the measures stipulated in the Constitution.

The Political Bureau also studied recent developments in the area, particularly those which concern the building of the Greater Maghreb. The Political Bureau reaffirmed Algeria's strong adherence to the principle of Greater Maghreb unity, which represents a historic task for the current generations and a duty for all those who seek the objective of establishing stability, peace and prosperity in the area. Establishing the unity of the Greater Magreb constitutes a task that cannot be separated from the greater action for establishing Arab unity and African unity. This unity cannot crystallize or be attained except within a framework which is in harmony with its Arab and African environment which gives it its dual identity and projects it within the real concept of entrenching natural solidarity and strengthening the abilities of action in confronting the joint challenges which are manifested in completing the liberation of our territories and ensuring the conditions for developing our countries.

The legitimacy of the aspirations to establishment of the Greater Maghreb and the greatness of the (?work of initiating it) and the deep aspirations of our peoples which await fulfillment cannot permit frustration of the hope of all as a result of adverse evaluation of the objective facts by covering up the truth or misunderstanding of [words indistinct].

The lofty principle of Maghreb unity cannot serve any other issues but the issue of this unity and it cannot serve tactical considerations or interim preoccupations.

The policy of axes is not in actual fact a unity policy. It works to scatter what can be gathered together. Indeed it runs counter to the opportunities of work wherever they are to be found. Moreover, it basically contributes to weakening the chances and scattering the efforts away from where they are needed for joint action.

The unity of the Greater Maghreb is established through sincere evaluation of the capabilities which are to be had and through enlightened consideration of the facts which present themselves. The treaty of accord and fraternity concluded between Algiera, Tunisia, and Mauritania is based on the endeavor inspried by these requirements, and by gathering all the favorable conditions and drawing up clear principles which lead to responsible cohesion and creating a sound and encouraging environment, this treaty opens the way toward coming together and controlling the way to tackle things and the way to think about the specific aims and how to make them become mature, and about strictness ane persistence in implementing the decisions that have been taken.

Learning from the lessons of past experience, this treaty — the treaty of accord and fraternity — did not follow the easy path of resorting to haste or improvization ignoring the objective facts. Consequently, it has become a historic pillar which provides unity as well as mortar with which it is possible to build further.

The FLN Political Bureau affirmed the unchanging stand of Algeria regarding the decisive aspect of removing the causes of conflict and tension in the area, with the aim of building the Greater Maghreb. If building the Greater Magreb can provide the necessary framework to remove these regional disputes and tensions then one thing remains: The dynamics of such a structure cannot progress further if these disputes and tension are not solved while respecting the principle of the frontiers inherited at the time of independence. [sentence as heard]

The building of the Greater Maghreb cannot reach its final aim without giving the people of the Western Sahara the right to exercise all their national rights like other nations. To this aim, the issue of Western Sahara is part of the decolonization process which is in the process of completion. Consequently, it is an integral part of the work of those who are fighting for freedom, particularly in Africa. The OAU is the natural framework for solving the Western Sahara issue, and Resolution 104 of the 19th OAU session analyzes the ways and means of solving the Western Sahara issue. This resolution is an expression of African uninimity in the international community. The spirit of unanimity should lead to a favorable reconciliation and accord between the two fraternal nations of Morocco and Western Sahara.

Finally, the Political Bureau reaffirmed that Algeria, for its part, remains ready for any action which leads to the achievement of this aim. Algeria's unchanging adherence to the cause of freedom and its conviction in the unity of the Greater Maghreb make this a duty which it is willing to shoulder.

Mauritanian President Telephones Bendjedid

LD221525 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, received a telephone conversation from Mauritanian President Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, this morning.

Bourguiba Message to Bendjedid on Maghreb Summit

LD221114 Kuwait KUNA in English 1014 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Algiers, Aug 22 (KUNA) — Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid received a message Tuesday night [21 August] from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba on cooperation between the two North African Arab countries and developments in the Greater Arab Maghreb, it was reported. The message was delivered by Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi who arrived here earlier in the evening.

Diplomatic sources in Tunis told KUNA that the message deals with Tunisia's stand on Libyan-Moroccan unity, and the call of Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to hold a summit conference for leaders of Tunisia, Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Libya. The sources added that Tunisia and Algeria, are however, not "enthusiastic" over the summit, which was called during a recent visit of President al-Qadhdhafi to Tunis and Algiers.

Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania are linked with a fraternity and entente treaty organizing joint security and defense issues.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Klibi Message of Support

LD220901 Tripoli JANA in English 0827 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Dhulqidah, 22 August JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received a message of support to the agreement of union between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco from the secretary-general of the Arab League, Chedli Klibi. It reads as follows:

Colonel Mu'ammer Al-Qadhdhafi, leader of Al-Fatih of the Great September Revolution; The agreement of the union signed between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Moroccan Kingdom is a positive step towards realizing more cooperation among our countries, towards bringing our peoples together, towards forming the large Arab Maghreb and thereby realizing the unity of the Arab nation. By sending to you my congratulations I would like hereby to express my hope that this outstanding initiative would be followed by other steps which would lead to its materialization. With great respect.

Al-Humaydi Receives Saudi King's Personal Envoy

LD222301 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli 22 Aug (JANA) — Major Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi [assistant chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces] today received in audience Shaykh 'Ali Muslim, personal envoy of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia.

Burkinabe Foreign Minister Arrives in Tripoli

LD221045 Tripoli JANA in English 0941 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Dhulqidah, 22 August, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The foreign minister of Burkina Faso, Hama Arba Diallo, arrived in Tripoli on the evening of the 20 August on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Burkinabe Foreign Minister Departs

LD221905 Tripoli JANA in English 1807 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqidah 25, August 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The foreign minister of Burkina Faso, Hama Arba Diallo, this afternoon left Tripoli after a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Armed Forces Chief Attends Maneuver in Eastern Region

LD222112 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Commander in Chief of the Libyan Popular Armed Forces, Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, attended yesterday's live-ammunition maneuver staged by some forces of the Eastern Region and in which units of the armed youth, students, government employees and teachers, took part. Tanks, armored vehicles, missiles, Air Defense and (?the Air Force) played a major role in this maneuver, since they scored precise hits on their targets, thus demonstrating the great capability of both men and commands to use the developed equipment with which our Armed Forces have been supplied. At the end of the maneuver the commander in chief thanked the forces which had taken part and urged them to embark on more efforts and training so as to protect the gains of the revolution.

MOROCCO

Parties Send Messages to Hassan Supporting Treaty

LD221438 Rabat MAP in English 1216 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug 22 (MAP) — Following the signing of the Oujda treaty instituting a union of states between Morocco and Libya, on Monday, August 13, Moroccan political parties voiced their support to the treaty. Thus, Chairman of the National Rally for Independents (RNI) Mr Ahmed Osman addressed a message to King Hassan II in which he hailed this happy initiative.

The institution of the union of states, the message read, constitutes at the same time an Arab, Islamic and African challenge, which will enable avert disunion factors, and an enlightened stage on the path of cohesion, cooperation and union between the peoples of the grand Maghreb.

On his part, in a similar message, Mahjoubi Aherdane, secretary general of the Popular Movement Party, expressed his sincerest congratulations at the signing of the treaty "knowing that we totally trust in the wisdom and the deep insight of Your Majesty". He also expressed hope that the treaty may be the prelude to the union of the grand Maghreb.

The Constitutional Union Party on its part convened a meeting last Saturday under the chairmanship of Mr Maati Bouabid, during which several issues of national interest here dealt with, the union treaty in priority. Mr Bouabid hailed the sovereign's initiative, which aims at achieving the unity of the grand Maghreb and the unity of the Arab nation as a whole. The Constitutional Union party renewed its mobilization with a view to materializing this noble objective.

On the other hand, the Regional Secretariat of the Socialist Union for Popular Forces (USFP) will hold a rally next Friday, August 24, in Rabat, with a view to explaining the point of view of the USFP on the treaty of the union of states.

Hassan Pardons Prisoners on Anniversary

LD211432 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] On the occasion of the King and People Revolution, his majesty issued pardon for a number of prisoners. The Ministry of Justice issued the following statement in this respect: Following the tradition of his ancestors, his majesty issued his order to add the anniversary of 20 August to the national occasions during which requests for pardon can be submitted. Thus his majesty issued his order to pardon 252 prisoners from the rest of their detention or imprisonment; to pardon 16 prisoners from the rest of their imprisonment but not the fine; to reduce the period imprisonment or detention for 85 prisoners; and to change imprisonment for life to a definite period for 1 prisoner.

SUDAN

Numayri, Delegation Leave for Romania

JN211108 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, his wife, and the delegation accompanying them left Khartoum for Bucharest at 0820 today. They will visit Romania at the invitation of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to participate in the Romanian people's celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the 23 August 1944 uprising, which crowned the Romanian people's struggle throughout a history abounding with heroic deeds and which led to their modern advancement. The president will hold talks with President Ceausescu on bilateral relations, and on both regional and international issues of common interest.

The high-ranking delegation accompanying the president is comprised of the ministers of foreign affairs, finance and economic planning, and education, as well as several other officials. The president's visit will last several days.

Romanian TV Interviews Numayri

JN221810 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Bucharest, 22 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has affirmed that the policies of Sudan and Romania are identical with regard to their support for peace everywhere, coexistence, friendship with all the world countries, and their opposition to wars and the arms race. He said that he felt this during his meeting with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu yesterday and on previous occasions. This came during an interview his excellency held with Romanian television. At the start of the interview, President Numayri thanked President Ceausescu for inviting him to Romania's national day celebrations. He said that the invitation is proof of the friendship and strong and developing relations between Sudan and Romania.

President Numayri affirmed in the television interview the continuing development in relations between the two countries. He indicated that Sudanese delegations will visit Romania in September to discuss issues of common interest in the fields of cooperation and political action through the two countries' joint ministerial committees. President Numayri spoke about the meetings between the members of his accompanying delegation and their Romanian comrades. He explained that their talks were successful on most issues discussed. Numayri indicated that during his current visit to Romania he observed continuing progress in the industrial, agricultural, and cultural fields.

On his visit to the fair yesterday, which was established on Romania's 40th anniversary, Numayri said that he observed Romania's progress in the fields of light and heavy industries and the Romanian Government's interest in food production and in benefitting from Romania's agricultural and mineral resources. He said that he was particularly interested in visiting the fair to become acquainted with Romanian industry to bolster economic and trade cooperation and training between the two countries.

Further on Bucharest Visit

For Sudanese and Romanian reportage of President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri's participation in the festivities occassioned by the 40th anniversary of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation of 23 August, including his talks with Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania, see the Romania section of the 22 August Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

TUNISIA

Libyan Foreign Secretary At-Turayki Arrives

LD221457 Tunis TAP in Aabic 1200 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Tunis, 22 Aug (TAP) — Secretary of the General People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau in Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Mr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, arrived in Tunis this morning. He is accompanied by a delegation of Libyan officials, including the secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning. He will be attending the meetings of the followup committee, set up by the joint Tunisian-Libyan Higher Committee.

Foreign Ministers Hold Talks

LD221858 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The Tunisian-Libyan Cooperation Follow-Up Committee held a meeting today at the Foreign Ministry premises under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Jamahiriyah 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki.

Mzali Receives Libya's At-Turayki

LD221845 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister and Acting Interior Minister Mohamed Mzali received in audience today Mr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who was accompanied by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning. Mr at-Turayki stated that the meeting with Mr Mohamed Mzali was fraternal and very constructive and that cooperation between Tunisia and the Libyan Jamahiriyah was discussed at the meeting. He added that contacts between the two sides will continue so as to look at the extent of progress in carrying out joint projects and to prepare for the implementation of other proejcts that have been approved. He stressed the two countries' satisfaction with the progress of cooperation between them. Present at the meeting were Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi, Planning Minister Ismail Khalil, secretary of state for international cooperation Ahmed Ben Arfah, [words indistinct] and also the Libyan acting high commissioner in Tunisia.

Oudja Pact Welcomed in Context of 'Great Maghreb'

PM221021 Tunis L'ACTION in French 18 Aug 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Treaty of Fraternity and Concord Forms a Suitable Framework for Building the Great Maghreb"]

[Text] Following the signing of a treaty instituting a state union between Morocco and Libya, TAP asked [Tunisian] Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi the following questions: "Tunisia and Algeria concluded a treaty of fraternity and concord last year to which Mauritania adhered, and a treaty instituting a state union between Morocco and Libya was signed at the beginning of this week. What is your view on this latter treaty, and what effects do you think it has on the Maghreb scene?"

Beji Caid Essebsi replied: "Tunisia, which works constantly to strengthen the ties of fraternity, concord, and cooperation which it has with the fraternal countries both on the bilateral level and on the level of the Greater Arab Maghreb, welcomes any action within this framework. In this connection it welcomed the fact that His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi informed His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba of the signing of a treaty of union between their respective countries before it was published. Coming back to the treaty of fraternity and concord signed in 1983 by Tunisia, Algeria, and Mauritania and open to all the countries in the region, Tunisia reaffirms its attachment to that treaty which, through the principles laid down in it and the cooperation and joint action it has promoted, forms a suitable framework for working to build the great Arab Maghreb in fraternity, solidarity, cooperation, and complementarity. It thinks that the continuation of dialogue among the various countries in the region is the best way of realizing its peoples' objectives and aspirations."

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Executive Committee Issues Statement

LD221332 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1218 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture in the liberated territories today issued a statement following a meeting of the Polisario Front Executive Committee under the chairmanship of Mohamed Abdelaziz, general secretary of Polisario Front and president of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR], which states the following:

The Polisario Front Executive Committee studied at this meeting the situation in the area in light of developments that have taken place here. The committee affirmed in its statement that the continuation of the Moroccan invasion of SDAR territories constitutes the major obstacle to the efforts exerted and being exerted to establish the Arab Maghreb. The statement noted that the Executive Committee considers the African peace plan resulting from the 19th African summit and firmly established by international unanimity expressed through the United Nations, constitutes the most solid base and the only suitable way to free our area from the situation of confrontation and dismemberment.

The committee considers in its statement that any attempt to remove the issue from its African and international framework or to change the nature of the issue from one of decolonization will only lead to the prolongation of the state of war, the suffering of peoples, and the intensification of the foreign presence in our area.

The Executive Committee strongly emphasizes that the Polisario Front is a liberation front with a unionist course and that it is impossible to outmaneuver it. It was the front that stood up to the oppression and injustice being imposed on the Saharan people, the African Continent and the Arab nation.

Concluding its statement the committee expressed great hope that the first positive outcome of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah-Moroccan federation will be the withdrawal of all invasion forces from the territories of the SDAR, which would open the horizons of peace and unity in our area and lead to the prosperity of its peoples.

Algiers Cites Polisario Battle Report

LD222038 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Attacks are continuing on the battlefield: The latest Polisario communique published today mentions a series of operations launched 17-19 August along the defense wall in the regions of Amgala, Jdiria and Bou Craa. Other operations were noted in the region of Aargub and between Amgala and Bou Craa. The communique mentions 57 dead and 65 injured within the Moroccan ranks.

ETHIOPIA

Kenyan Foreign Affairs Minister Arrives in Addis Ababa

EA221929 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] E.W. Mwangale, Kenyan minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Addis Ababa today to deliver a message from Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Eritrean National Council Issues Statement

LD230832 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2120 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, 22 Aug (SPA) — The higher preparatory committee of the meeting of the Eritrean National Council has called on Eritreans to exercise their national duty to recognize the desperate attempts being made to incite a civil war among the Eritreans. This was contained in a statement issued by the committee. Here is the text of the statement:

Throughout the past the Eritrean revolution forces struggled to realize the slogan of national unity as a central objective of the Eritrean struggle expressing the true understanding of the dimensions of the Eritrean-Ethiopian conflict and mature awareness of the need to gain strategic supremacy over the Ethiopian enemy. The struggles ended when the three detachments signed the Jiddah agreement early in 1983. [The three detachments mentioned are: the Eritrean Liberation Front, the Revolutionary Committee for the People's Liberation Forces, and the Central Council for the People's Liberation Forces]

This was followed by the 21 June 1984 Khartoum agreement which set the date for the meeting of the national council. The necessary steps were taken to organize the meeting by forming a higher committee to prepare for it and creating subcommittees and a joint action program for the transitional period.

Since the very first day when the higher committee issued its statement, the Popular Front launched a feverish offensive against unity and the agreement, making all sorts of accusations against the parties, and threatening to deal a decisive military blow to the three detachments.

Thus the conflict became clearly visible to our masses and to our brothers and friends. It was a struggle between the forces — represented on the one hand by the three detachments — which believe in unity as a central objective, and dialogue as the means to achieving it and by the forces — represented by the Popular Front — which reject the unity, cast doubt upon it, and seek to strike at it and abort it.

Then came the recent aggression for which the Popular Front ammassed all its capabilities. It began on 29 July 1984 and continued until 30 July 1984 in the rear positions of our camps in a manner fraught with rancor against those supporting unity. It led to material and human losses in some of the positions.

The Popular Front did not really intend to strike at the military forces of the three detachments though this was what it in fact tried to do. Its ulterior objective was to strike at the new hope and the masses' accomplishment represented in the unity of the three detachments. In this sense, the aggression has completely failed, for the unity is stronger than all these rash attempts and is more established than the daydreams of the commanders of the Popular Front. Events have proven the cohesion of the strugglers of the three detachments in the military, political, and masses fields. The unity has a protective shield represented by the cheering masses during tumultuous gatherings which sowed fear in the hearts of the enemy and confidence in the hearts of the brothers.

The unity has become a tangible fact, a living achievement, cohesion, and bondage among its supporters. The parties supporting unity have become stronger and all stand now in one trench enjoying a common understanding. They rely on one massive base and march toward one objective. By its recent aggression, the Popular Front has placed itself face to face against the Eritrean masses — a matter which will have direct consequences in the near future.

The Eritrean conflict today has become clearer and has its own political motives and implications. Its results will have a direct effect on the Eritrean-Ethiopian struggle since the past activities of the Popular Front and its flagrant recent aggression against our positions serve none other than the interest of the Ethiopian enemy's schemes, particularly since they coincide with the deployment of the Ethiopian forces in some positions in the liberated countryside.

Thus the Ethiopian enemy has found volunteers to carry out what it itself could not achieve with all the means at its disposal: to weaken and later liquidate the Eritrean revolution by keeping it divided and fragmented.

While struggling to implement the tripartite agreement, we will work to affirm the unity of the Eritrean people with all their factions and groups. We will not permit the Popular Front and its supporters to distort intra-Eritrean differences. The unity forces will continue to halt the aggression and feverish plotting of the Popular Front, deter its aggression, and thwart its designs which are opposed to unity and democratic dialogue.

The tripartite agreement shall be the prelude to the Eritrean unified national action which reflects the ambitions of the Eritreans and their aspiration to freedom and national independence. The three detachments shall continue to represent the might of the national forces which have unified in the struggle for the sake of the greater national cause. The Popular Front will remain isolated from our own masses and will be looked upon suspiciously by brothers and friends.

In the end, history will not be made except by those who possess its tools and are equipped with its strategic weapons, the foremost of which are the masses. It suffices here to refer to the events of the recent mass meetings that followed the Khartoum agreement, for in them we will find the reply to all those who seek to cast doubts about the unity and we will find the way to formulate the national Eritrean future.

KENYA

Foreign Minister Discusses RSA With Vatican Envoy

EA222203 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, has reiterated Kenya's demand for total isolation of the racist South African regime. Mr Mwangale said racist South Africa could have normal relations with independent African states by abolishing oppression and her apartheid policy. Mr Mwangale made the remarks when he received the papal nuncio, Archbishop Clemente Faccani, in his office. The archbishop was briefing Mr Mwangale on the recent visit of racist South African prime minister, Pieter Botha, to the Vatican.

Mr Mwangale told the envoy time is ripe for South Africa to recognize Namibia's right to independence without any preconditions whatsoever. Archbishop Faccani informed Mr Mwangale of the Catholic Church's position on apartheid, Namibia's independence, and the rights of the majority of Africans in South Africa.

SOMALIA

Accord Signed on Sale of U.S. Food Aid

EA191440 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Ministry of Commerce and USAID today signed an agreement regarding the conditions for the sale of food aid which has recently arrived for the people of the SDR. The agreement was signed at the Ministry headquarters by SDR Commerce Minister Colonel Musa Rabile Ghod and Mrs (Louis), head of USAID.

The food aid, which comprises 53,378 metric tons, is valued at $25,323,807, which is equivalent to 440,128,909 Somali shillings. So far 26,435 metric tons have arrived in the country, and the rest of the consignment is due within the next few weeks.

The food aid is in two parts: A. Emergency food aid, which is gift from the people of the United States to the people of the SDR; and B. food aid in the form of a soft loan repayable over 40 years. The food comprises wheat, flour, rice, and oil.

Halgan: Two Colonels Shot by Barre Troops

EA230900 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Reports from Mogadishu say two Army colonels have been shot dead in the heart of Mogadishu city by armed repressive organsstill loyal to dictator Barre.

The two officers, whose names we have not received, were shot after they refused to carry out the orders of Barre which are against the interests of the Somali community.

In order to prolong its rule the regime orders the Army to oppress, massacre, and loot the general public so as to cripple their ability and dignity.

Radio Halgan Reports Bazooka Attack on Hargeisa

EA230852 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Reports from Hargeisa, capital of the northwest region, confirm that on 18 August two houses belonging to (?idolators) [tagut] of Siad received a direct hit from bazookas fired by commandos of the Somali National Movement wing of the Somali opposition forces who launched an attack on Haregisa town.

The houses were badly damaged. One of them belonged to (?idolator) Husayn Umar (Kujog). The reports did not disclose if there were any casualties during the attack.

Halgan Reports DFSS Attack; 2 Soldiers Killed

EA230853 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Reports from the Ninth General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces, said that units of its fighters launched a surprise attack on the loyalist troops of dictator Barre stationed at (Buryaqab) village in Mudugh region.

The reports confirm that the loyalist troops of Barre lost an officer, Lieutenant Ali (Wardere), and another soldier who were killed during the action. Several other soldiers were wounded. The report adds that the DFSS fighters also burned one Toyota truck. The gallant fighters of the DFSS returned to their base safely.

UGANDA

Vice President Muwanga, Delegation Visit DPRK

For Pyongyang reportage on the visit to the DPRK by a delegation led by Paulo Muwanga, vice president and minister of defense, including his discussions with DPRK officials, see the North Korea section of the 17 August Asia and Pacific *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

CAMEROON

Delegation Leaves for Joint Meeting With Egypt

AB221515 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The minister delegate in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Mahamat Paba Sale, left Cameroon this morning at the head of a delegation to Cairo, Egypt. The Cameroonian delegation will take part in the first session of the Egypt-Cameroon joint commission which opens there tomorrow.

CHAD

Opposition UND Members Declare Support for UNIR

AB221039 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Summary] "The National Democratic Union [UND], an opposition movement, has broken up. Three of its members have just disowned it in a letter addressed to President Hissein Habre, the chairman of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR]. They have rejected the leader of the movement, a certain Mr Balaam, the so-called creater of a third force in Ouagadougou." The men are: (Mane Abou Saye Maroua), member of the Steering Committee of the UND in charge of organization and mass rallying who is presently chairman of the UND's patriotic wing in Ndjamena; (Saidou), member of the Steering Committee of the UND in charge of social affairs; and Oumar Lamana, member of the Steering Committee of the UND in charge of information and press. Their letter is as follows:

To the comrade chairman of the UNIR and head of state: Mr President, "according to reports by the national and international press, it seems that a certain Mr Balaam is trying to create a so-called third force in Ouagadougou." "Balaam was expelled from Tripoli on 15 September 1983 and his supply of petrodollars was cut off. His master Goukouni has cut off all his resources and has thus put an end of his lavish standard of living."

"He therefore decided to find a sponsor in the person of Thomas Sankara [the head of the state of Burkina Faso] to rally round some (?fake) movements to support his cause, and to create his Rally of the Patriotic Forces [RFP] of which he is the notorious spokesman.

"The Steering Committee of the UND, at its meeting on 14 August 1984, strongly denounced this Machiavellian maneuver aimed at prostituting our dear fatherland. Following the creation of the UNIR and after undertaking a campaign aimed at informing the UND grass root organizations throughout the country, the steering committee of the UND's patriotic wing in Chad — through this letter — declares its support for the UNIR."

Defector Describes Libyan Rule in North

AB221148 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Summary] "A member of the armed opposition has just returned to legality. He is called Mahamat Saleh Ibrahim." "Taken prisoner by the enemy forces at (Oukebi) on 12 May 1983, Mahamat Saleh Ibrahim was released 8 months later and enrolled into the (?FAP) [People's Armed Forces], Al-Qadhdhafi's army." He later evaded the vigilance of the enemy, escaped, and is now among us.

"In a statement yesterday to the national press, Mahamat Saleh Ibrahim — just like other returnees who preceded him — disclosed the bellicose intentions of Libya and its occupation forces." The Libyan Army is firmly established in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti Region. "Sada is surrounded by two Libyan tank detachments while Faya-Largeau is surrounded by four. This means that these two localities have become veritable strongholds where the Libyan Army in engaged in all sorts of atrocities against the population. There is no food in the area. There is misery and famine everywhere. The [Faya-Largeau] palm grove is being systematically destroyed. All demonstrations by our compatriots, who cannot accept the accomplished fact, are violently repressed. Tortures, hangings, and massacres of the youth and of old men and women constitute the lot of the populations who are living in miserable conditions.

"The reading of the Green Book [written by Al-Qadhdhafi] is compulsory. The French language is forbidden. Children aged 6 or 7 years have been packed in camps created for them where they receive their first lessons from the Green Book and some of them have been taken to unknown destinations."

Mahamat Saleh Ibrahim called on all soldiers on the other side to return to legality.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

President Makes Official Visit to PRC

For XINHUA coverage of the visit to the PRC by President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, see the Middle East and Africa section of the 17 August China *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Obiang, Delegation Visit North Korea

For Pyongyang coverage of the visit to the DPRK by a delegation led by President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, including their talks with DPRK President Kim Il-song, see the North Korea section of the 22 August Asia and Pacific *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

GABON

Poll: Most 'Confident,' Some 'Worried' About Future

AB211445 Paris AFP in French 1411 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Libreville, 20 Aug (AFP) — According to the French company Marcomer-Gallup's countrywide opinion poll of 2,000 people taken in June and July, 55 percent of the Gabonese remain "confident" in their country's future but 36 percent said they are "rather worried."

The national daily, *L'UNION*, published the results of the public survey on Monday and according to them, 82 percent of the Gabonese have complete confidence in President Omar Bongo at the head of the state. Twelve percent have "some confidence" in him and 1 percent "no confidence at all," while 5 percent refuse to give any opinion on the issue.

While 66 percent of the Gabonese believe that national unity has been "completely achieved," 29 percent think there is still some effort to be made in this field.

Among the problems facing the population, they believe that unemployment comes first (29 percent) , followed by the bad condition of the roads (19 percent), low incomes (18 percent), insecurity and banditry (15 percent), shortage of public transports (11 percent) or of lodgings (10 percent).

Corruption and tribalism seem of little importance to Gabonese (6 percent) as do sanitation infrastructures (5 percent) or schools (1 percent) of which the country, it is true, is relatively well provided.

On the other hand, the presence of many foreigners in Gabon — including 25,000 French nationals — seems to be "an important problem" to only 6 percent of the people questioned. In addition, 12 percent of the Gabonese think that they are facing "no particular problem" at the moment.

Asked whether their standard of living was now better or worse than 3 years ago, 46 percent said they are "less satisfied" or believe that their situation has not changed positively, but 53 percent say it is "more satisfactory."

In the framework of this poll, Gabon's political stability amounted to only 10 percent of the "strong points" which [words indistinct].

Finally, 41 percent of the Gabonese believe that Gabon is "one of the leading African countries" and 71 percent think that its prestige on the continent is "very important."

ZAIRE

AZAP Denies Reports of Proposed Botha Visit

AB221620 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1234 GMT 22 Aug 84

[AZAP commentary: "No Place for an Undesirable"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 Aug (AZAP] — Not too long ago, Field Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the MPR, during a visit to Europe categorically condemned the visit by South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha to that continent. World opinion knows the steadfastness of the basic principles of Zaire's foreign policy, and a change of attitude by Zaire toward the audience granted here and there to South African leaders cannot be envisaged unless some conditions are met. Marshal Mobutu cited some of these conditions in his important address at the UN headquarters on 4 October 1973. Among them is the indispensable dialogue that must be undertaken by South African authorities with the black majority in order to abolish the major cause of the tension existing in South Africa, which is apartheid. Why and for what purpose, therefore, was Zaire cited among African countries to be visited soon by Prime Minister Botha? Is it through ignorance of Zaire's position on the South African problem, or is it simple provocation? One does not know. But the fact remains that, and to paraphrase President Mobutu Sese Seko, it is definitely not easy to be in Zaire's position. However, if it was meant to compromise us with a regime banned by the international community, then they lost. The founding chairman's clarification does not leave room for any doubts about Zaire's refusal to consider South Africa as an interlocutor since the racist authorities of Pretoria do not engage in dialogue on the spot with the oppressed black majority. If it hopes to obtain any kind of security to its backward policy, South Africa cannot count on Zaire, which only receives personalities that it has invited beforehand. This is not the case with Pieter Botha who to us is — and unless it is proved otherwise, remains — an undersirable.

Country To Ask for Another Debt Rescheduling

AB222110 Paris AFP in French 1823 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 Aug (AFP) — Zaire "will honor its commitments to its creditors and the IMF program, but it would like to be left a little breathing space," Zairian Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo stated on Tuesday. Zaire will ask for another debt rescheduling because the payments due in 1985 are more than the country's budget, Mr Kengo told AFP while commenting on the highlights of the budget proposed by his government. The prime minister called for a more balanced budget than the 1984 budget, 45 percent of which was devoted to debt servicing. He described the 1984 budget as one of "debts and remunerations." According to the draft budget, investments will double. It is expected to be to the tune of 25 billion zaires ($675 million). The total amount required for its external debt servicing would be $900 million. Zaire's external debt is expected to decrease from $4.1 billion at the end of (?1983) to $3.8 billion at the end of 1984, Mr Kengo went on. Zaire "is the only Third World country whose debt has continued to decrease over the last few years," one international finance expert noted.

BURKINA

Sankara Decree Suspends Protocol Director

AB211525 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution decrees:

Article 1: Comrade Juste W. Tientore, administrative number 12874, the director of state protocol, is suspended from his post for 1 month for failing to go on a mission assigned to him.

Article 2: Comrade Fulgence Traore will serve as the interim director for the given time period.

Article 3: The minister of foreign affairs and the minister of finance are respectively charged with the execution of the present decree effective 21 August 1984. The present decree will be recorded and published in the (?next issue of) the official gazette.

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara

'Positive Results' of Revolutionary Teachers Praised

AB212020 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The first meeting of the revolutionary teachers of Burkina opened this morning at the People's Palace. This meeting, which is the work of a group of teachers, is intended to make all comrades who were recruited after the political strike by the National Trade Union of Upper Voltan African Teachers more conscious of their responsibilities. It is also for reviewing concrete problems they have encountered in the course of their work. It will be an occasion for them to reaffirm their revolutionary conviction to join the anti-imperialist teachers organization and to discuss their professional problems. This was highlighted in the address given by Comrade Bertrand (Bachamo), the chairman of the meeting.

[Begin (Bachamo) recording] Faithful to this [revolutionary] pledge, it is necessary today to meet in order to better consolidate the achievements of the people's democratic revolution through our daily struggle for the advent of a true people's democratic school, a school that responds effectively to the interests of the popular masses as indicated by the 2 October political orientation statement. Quote: The revolutionary training to be given in the new school inculcates in each student a Burkinabe personality and ideology that rids the individual of all [word indistinct]. unquote.

Comrades, in order to bring this revolutionary work to a successful conclusion, we have to raise our political conciousness, acquire more and more technical competence, and work in an organized manner in order to bring the majority of teachers onto the anti-imperialist path. This is why our meeting today will review political, professional, and organizational problems. [end recording]

The National Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] was represented at this meeting by Comrade Lieutenant (Klimite Yienne). He addressed the meeting by first denying the demobilizing statements of those who maintained that teachers recruited in this manner would not make the grade and that this way of doing things would only lead to the degradation of the children they would have to train. According to him, the past year has proved just the contrary and the results are rather positive. He said these positive results will be beneficial for the future of the people's democratic revolution.

[Begin (Yienne) recording] Through the positive results that you have achieved from your determination, your spirit of creativity, and sacrifice you have demonstrated that your CDR's were not wrong in placing confidence in you. Your efforts have foiled internal and external destabilizing plots and hysterical anti-National Council of the Revolution and anti-CDR campaigns. In view of these positive results, the National Secretariat of the CDR's expresses its militant congratulations and encouragement. You must always work to merit the confidence placed in you. Certainly there were mistakes here and there but this is normal. Those who do not make errors are those who do nothing. Moreover, these errors can be classified into three groups: First of all we have those who make mistakes, realize their mistakes, and work to correct them. Next we have those who make mistakes, but who do not admit them, and finally there are those who think they are infallible, who make mistakes, and who obstinately persist in them. These are the gravediggers of the great work undertaken.

Comrades, today we have once again been given the opportunity to make our position clear concerning the mass organizations. In this connection, some perverse and Machiavellian minds are trying to sow confusion and to find in every circumstance an opportunity to oppose the CDR's to the mass organizations. The CDR's National Secretariat has no intention of either replacing or working against the mass organizations and their activities as long as they are at the service of the Burkinabe people, as long as they are a framework that promotes the development and self-assertion of the Burkinabe — in a word a framework that promotes its fighting initiative. [end recording]

GAMBIA

Jawara Calls for Diversified Agriculture

AB221214 Dakar PANA in English 1126 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Banjul, 22 Aug (GINS/PANA) — Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara has reiterated his government's decision to diversify the country's agricultural production. Groundnuts is the main cash crop but recently the government has moved to bring cotton production at par with groundnuts as part of its diversification efforts. President Jawara, currently on a ten day tour of provinces, told a meeting of farmers in Bansang that agricultural diversification must be achieved if the Gambia was to realise her set goals in food production. The recently announced increases in cash crop prices, he said, should be seen an an incentive to farmers. He appealed to them to cooperate with government in this important undertaking.

GHANA

Country, USSR Complete Plans for Bauxite Exploitation

AB212120 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Ghana and the Soviet Union have made significant progress in talks toward the exploitation of the Kibi bauxite deposit. Plans for work to begin on the project have been completed. This was made known to newsmen in Accra today on arrival back home by the secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, from Moscow. Dr Botchway, who was a member of a four-man government delegation, held talks with his Soviet counterpart on bilateral relations. According to Dr Botchway, major projects and their financing in the economic sector were discussed. They also discussed the co-financing of projects with some other socialist countries.

Dr Botchway recalled that under a Ghana-Soviet agreement signed in 1982, the Soviet Union granted to Ghana 7 million rubles to finance a number of projects in the country. These include the Tarkwa gold refinery, the Tema Technical Institute, the Buipe cement project, and the prefab concrete project.

Dr Botchway added that the two sides agreed to implement and expedite work on the projects. In addition, the Soviet Union will establish a foundry to produce spare parts for the State Fishing Corporation and other industrial establishments in the country.

During the visit, the delegation met Ghanaian students in Moscow and briefed them on developments in the country. Other members of the delegation are the chief operations officer of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] headquarters, Major Courage Kwashigah, and Mr Obodai Sai of the State Committee on Economic Relations. The leader of the delegation, Captain Kojo Tsikata, special adviser to the PNDC, will return later.

Government Cuts Diplomatic Staff Fringe Benefits

AB200952 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Following investigations by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] Secretariat into the soaring cost of maintaining our foreign missions, and revelations of abuses of foreign exchange facilities by Ghanaian diplomatic and other personnel, the PNDC has issued directives about the allowances and entitlements of officers serving at Ghanaian missions abroad. The directives take immediate effect.

Only preschool-age children of Ghanaian diplomatic personnel on posting will be entitled to accompany their parents at government expense. The secretary for foreign affairs will be authorized in certain justified circumstances to allow up to two children of such personnel to be paid for to accompany their parents.

These restrictions will accordingly affect allowances granted on account of children's outfit and education abroad. Leave and outfit allowances as well as free rent and free use of telephones are no longer part of the service conditions for officers abroad.

Limits have been imposed on the weight of luggage that an officer going on posting is permitted to carry along. Such officers will also bear half of the cost of medical treatment for themselves and their family, and half of the electricity charges in their homes. These directives apply also to all staff in our foreign missions.

To this end, equivalent directives have been issued to staff of all government institutions, public corporations and universities which have officers serving abroad. The measures are expected to lead to savings in both foreign exchange and local currency.

IVORY COAST

Civil Servants Housing Scandal Trial Continues

AB211300 Paris AFP in French 0943 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Abidjan, 21 Aug (AFP) — The trial of the Logemad — the firm in charge of providing free lodging for Ivorian civil servants in which about 15 persons are being tried for embezzlement resulting in a loss of several billion CFA francs to the state — continued yesterday, Monday, at the Palace of Justice in Abidjan in the presence of a very large crowd.

During his examination, Simon Nandjui, one of the accused who was a former manager of Sogefia, a company engaged in the construction of low cost houses, strongly criticized the manner in which the judicial inquiry was conducted by the members of the commission of inquiry into the free housing program, especially Robert Bah, the commission chairman. Mr Nandjui stated that he was treated roughly by some of the officials in charge of the inquiry whom he accused of having used methods "worthy of the Gestapo." He affirmed that having been blackmailed, he "broke down" and gave an amount of 3.0 million CFA francs to the same officials at their demand in the vain hope that he would be released.

Robert Bah, who is 32, notably, studied sociology in France. Last year, President Houphouet-Boigny entrusted him with the chairmanship of the commission of inquiry concerning malpractices relating to the provision of free lodgings for civil servants.

An incident occurred at the opening of the trial last Friday when the president of the court called Mr Bah to order for remaining in the courtroom instead of withdrawing to the hall reserved for the witnesses.

Simon Nandjui is accused of embezzling a sum of 644 million CFA francs, of giving illicit privileges to some of his collaborators, and of bribing the members of the commission of inquiry. The following accused were examined last Friday: Erwin Field, a French citizen and former general manager of Logemad; Marc Gervais, husband of the former minister of women's affairs; and Jean Konan-Ferrand, former general manager of Sicogi, a company engaged in the construction of low cost houses.

About 60 witnesses, including Robert Bah and three ministers — Desire Boni, minister of public works, transport, construction and town planning from 1977 to February 1981 and then minister of public works and transport from 1981 to November 1983; Eugene Lasme, minister of construction and town planning from February 1981 to November 1983; and Theodore Koffi Attobra, minister of water and forest resources from 1977 to February 1981 — will give evidence on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The working conditions of the journalists covering the trial improved on Monday and all of them were able to find a seat. The *FRATERNITE MATIN* daily newspaper had criticized the fact that during the first day of the trial, the journalists were compelled to work in extremely difficult conditions with only one chair for three persons.

This trial, which will continue throughout the week, constitutes the most important economic case since independence and the huge sums involved — an amount of 4, 5, and even 7 billion CFA francs has been mentioned — has become known as "the trial of the billions" by the public who are following its development with great interest.

LIBERIA

Doe Addresses Interim National Assembly 22 Aug

AB221750 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1617 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Address by head of state Samuel Doe to the Interim National Assembly on 22 August — recorded]

[Text] Mr Vice President of the Interim National Assembly, Mr Speaker, Mr Secretary General and members of the assembly, Mr Chief Justice and members of the Supreme Court, members of the Cabinet, Mr Chairman and members of the Special Military Tribunal, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

It is for me a great pleasure to welcome you to the capital, one of the great political subdivisions of our country, to afford you another opportunity to inform you of the developments relating to the purpose of this important assembly. The (?issue is on) the smooth and peaceful transition to civilian rule. I am particularly pleased that the vice president of the assembly is with us after a successful (?1-year tour of duty) at our embassy in London. It is my sincere hope and desire that everyone of us in this house will do our very best to fulfill the task that is imposed on us at a crucial time in our history.

From the very beginning of our revolution we (?have been stressing) that our goal is one of establishing a just social order that will bring peace and security to all of our people, regardless of individual background or position in society. Consistent with this goal, a committee of 25 members was appointed in 1981 to draft a new constitution to serve as a foundation for the Second Republic. When I received the draft constitution in 1983, I pointed out that excessive political ambition could reverse the noble goal we have set for ourselves. But with faith in God and the people of this country, and with the determination [words indistinct] to check our progress. We set up the National Constitution Advisory Assembly to review the draft constitution. When the advisory members completed their work, the People's Redemption Council [PRC] was pleased to grant a period of 3 months upon their request to explain the new document to the people. As this request came at an unexpected time, there had to be a slight modification of the timetable for returning the country to civilian rule. But the timetable still maintained 1985 as the year in which the new government should be organized. A constitution must meet the approval of those to be governed by it. Thus we had the referendum in order to determine that the Constitution was acceptable to the people. It was a great relief for the council when the Constitution was accepted. We felt relieved because rumors were circulated that we had (?enjoined) the people to reject the Constitution so that we might remain in office.

My fellow citizens, in keeping with our commitment to return the country to civilian rule, and in keeping with the timetable established for this purpose, we lifted the ban on politics on July 26, 1984, the 137th independence anniversary of the nation. Shortly before this development, the PRC was dissolved and replaced by the Interim National Assembly, members of which were selected from all the political subdivisions of the country. If there should be any doubt about our sincerity of purpose in returning the country to civilian rule, the true observers will agree that this development dispelled the doubt.

Indeed, despite the unfavorable economic situation in our country and throughout the world, the government shouldered the financial responsibility connected with the change in program of returining the country to civilian rule. We have also ably met our obligations to the international community as well as to our own people. We traveled to nearly all the corners of the world in search of needed assistance for our many economic problems.

It appeared to me, however, that the lifting of the ban on politics, which was intended to give our people a chance for the first time in our history to participate in the democratic process, is being misused by some politicians to endanger the security of the state and prevent economic progress. This is the main point of my address to you today. As a body which is charged with the responsibilities of steering the ship of state to the (?moral) destiny, we are (?obliged) to provide the necessary advice that can resolve this problem. The fact is that we cannot afford to disappoint our people, but neither shall we tolerate a situation whereby the security of the state will continue to be in jeopardy. We cannot expect to create the Second Republic out of chaos and economic collapse. The danger that is now (?looming) before us is so great that everyone of us should be extremely concerned about our future.

When we assumed power in 1980, we inherited a debt burden of about $1 billion. This alone was sufficient to prevent economic advancement, especially so when the price of our raw materials, such as rubber and ore, was declining sharply on the world market. Additionally, the treasury was virtually empty. I was surprised when I read in a newspaper the other day a statement made by Mrs Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf that efficient government, among other things, was marked with allocation of resources. [sentence as heard] She suggested that we should not construct large houses when our people needed more homes, market buildings, and hospitals. She advised against foreign travels when we do not use our own money. Funds and business capital must be sought from the outside to make development possible. Mrs Sirleaf spoke of the need for discipline in public service when in fact this has been the major problem for all previous administrations. I do not like to share blame, but when an individual who is fully acquainted with our problems and who contributed to this problem begins to point fingers at us, I think it is befitting to mention these facts for the benefit of the public.

Between 1972 and 1980, when Mrs Sirleaf played important roles in the nation's financial management, including that of the Ministry of Finance, government acquired a total of $637 million in debt. Exactly what this money was used for, we have no idea because we continued to be confronted with serious development problems. Doubtless such charges are intended to mislead public imagination and create disharmony in our society. If the challenge we face was simply a matter of disproving misleading applications [as heard], there would be no reason for real concern, but we have come to the point where the security of the state is threatened. We came to this conclusion because the leadership of one of the intending [as heard] political parties in this country plans to force my resignation or destroy the country if this plan did not materialize. We are grateful to God and to our security forces for the timely revelation of this plot, which if implemented would have imposed immense sufferings upon every one of us.

By now you are informed about the circumstances surrounding the detention of Dr Amos Sawyer, chairman of the Liberian People's Party, who spearheaded a coup plot. According to investigation and available evidence, the aim of Dr Sawyer and his supporters was to pressurize me to resign by creating chaos and confusion among the people. After forcing my resignation, overthrowing the government, and making mass arrests of government officials and other citizens, Dr Sawyer and his supporters had planned to install a socialist republic in Liberia with the aid of foreign countries, including three African states.

The plotters had three basic strategies: The first of these was to march on the Executive Mansion ground to demand my resignation after creating confusion, fears, distrust, and division among the peoples of the country by spreading lies and rumors through leaflets. This phase of their operations succeeded in scaring investors and causing the general public to panic.

Their second strategy was to take advantage of my absence from the country to spread rumors that I had instructed the minister of defense to arrest members of the Interim National Assembly and declare himself prime minister, then he would invite me to return home and declare myself president. The purpose of these and other rumors was to create division between the Assembly, the Ministry of Defense, the Armed Forces, and myself. If the strategy of confusion did not work, according to reports, the Sawyer group would then resort to violence as their third strategy, blowing up important public installations and buildings, including the Liberian Electricity Corporation [LEC] generators, the Liberia Petroleum Refinery Company, the (Mark Coffie) hardware plant, the Peoples and Falley Varney Bridges, the general markets, and the recently dedicated Rally Time market building. If all else had failed, the Sawyer group were to set the city of Monrovia on fire with the aid of the trained saboteurs of both Liberian and foreign origins. In order to ensure that destruction of the electrical facilities simultaneously around the country, Dr Sawyer obtained the support of Mr Harry Yuah, the former managing director of LEC who is knowledgeable about the inner workings of Liberia's entire electrical installations.

Indeed, I feel personally disppointed and surprised at the involvement of Dr Amos Sawyer, a personal friend of mine who seems such an innocent professor, in being implicated in the plot against the state. His prominent role and sincerity of purpose in preparing the Constitution now stands in question at these revelations. To demand the resignation of the commander in chief is against all military rules. Members of the Cabinet can be requested by the head of state to resign at any time, because they are appointed by him and they serve at his pleasure. But the head of state is either elected, in which case the electoral process can remove him from office, or he assumed office through his own initiative. In this case he can surrender power of his own free will.

Though we came to power through our own initiative, the democratic process which we have set in motion is a clear indication of our desire to institute a constitutional rule in this country. I would like to assure you that when investigations are completed, Dr Sawyer and his collaborators will be given speedy and fair trial in spite of PRC Decree 88-A under which they could be detained until civilian rule is established.

What surprised me more than anything else in the Sawyer affair was the emotional and disrespectful approach [words indistinct] in the matter, putting aside the due process of law, to order the immediate release of Dr Sawyer [words indistinct] to produce evidence for the charges made against him. Instead of directing their demand specifically to government, they published it in the news media and forwarded me a copy. I believe that it is raw disrespect to a head of state, who is the head of authority in the land, to order him to release an individual who is charged for crimes. This strategy was designed either to intimidate or blackmail the head of state to lay aside the rule of law and act on sentiments.

I expect that people who are reasonable and who respect the principles of justice will seek international and legal support to defend a friend of theirs that is changed with crimes.

Ladies and gentlemen, since our popular revolution on 12 April 1980, the Government of Liberia has provided financial and material support for programs and activities of the University of Liberia. With the (?meager) resources at our disposal, we have never hesitated to come to the rescue of the institution at any time of their need. In 1983, following my visit to the Republic of Korea and the PRC, I donated six large buses to the institution to ease the problems of transporting its students to and from campus. When government deducted amounts ranging from 16 and 2/3 percent to 25 percent from the salaries of all public servants due to the stringent financial difficulties, the salaries of the faculty and other employees of the university remained undisturbed. Instead, we have done everything we could in spite of financial constraints, to identify ourselves with the needs and problems of the institution. However, in recent weeks, we have observed a display and rise in the level of antigovernment propaganda on the university campus. This government takes a (?grave) view of what it considers to be an attitude of confrontation on the part of the university adminstration. While this government recognizes the autonomy of the university, it will not condone any attempt on part of students, faculty, and administration to dictate to government. [applause] Should any of such members of the university campus persist in this practice, this government will not hesitate to withdraw its support to the institution.

You will note that shortly before the ban on politics was lifted, government collected $2.5 million in taxes per day. Now our daily collection stands at $300,000 because of fears created by the Sawyer group. I had to cut short my visit because of these developments at home. It is heartening to note that this visit began to yield fruitful results from its very beginning. In Germany, where I made my first stop to undergo a medical checkup, I proposed to the German president an aid package of $5 million for purchase of drugs and equipment for our hospitals. We managed to obtain initially drugs worth more than $200,000 for John F. Kennedy hospital.

I want to declare in this (?public) manner the grave health problems our people face. We appeal to aspiring politicians to help us solve this problem through financial contributions. This will indicate that our concern is to seek after the welfare of the people and not simply to gain power over them. Because of the crucial nature of our health problem, I recommend to this honorable body that every gainful employed citizen pay $5 per month in form of salary reduction to enable government to successfully tackle these problems. I call on members of the diplomatic corps to lend us a helping hand in our efforts to resolve our health problems because health is fundamental to the existence of the people. I also appeal to members of the business community to give their full support to this endeavor.

I would like to note that if my visit to Europe had not been interrupted by the sudden return, the visit would have brought investments and other benefits to the nation amounting to $700 million. This and other pledges mentioned above are directly attributed to the unfavorable political climate created since the lifting of the ban. [sentence as heard] The question now is: What can we do to ensure tranquillity so that our march to the Second Republic will be healthy? This is the question which you and I must answer. The answer we provide to this question will determine the success or failure of our program which is designed to establish constitutional rule in this country.

Meanwhile, I want all aspiring politicians to know that any attempt to subvert the stability of the state cannot be in the best interest of any political movement nor [in the best interest of] the return to constitutional rule. Thus, our security forces have been directed to remain forever vigilant to arrest plotters and troublemakers who endanger our security. They have also been directed to check all goods, containers, vehicles, and other means of transportation entering or leaving the country. I call on all peoples of this country to remain calm but vigilant against the enemy within our midst who speak about democratic rule and do everything possible to prevent it. I thank you. [applause]

Doe Closes University, Dismisses Administration

AB221928 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The head of state and visitor [as heard] to the University of Liberia, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has ordered the immediate closure of the University of Liberia and has also dismissed the entire administration. Those dismissed include Mrs Mary Anthony Brown Sherman, president of the university; Dr James T. Tarpeh, vice president for academic affairs; Dr Patrick Senyah, vice president for administration. Also dismissed are all deans and members of the University Senate and Council.

The head of state said the decision to dismiss the administration is based on the failure of the authorities at the university to instill proper discipline into the students, thereby causing chaos in the community. Dr Doe said the university has now been transformed into a political center with little attention given to the academic functions for which the institution was established. The head of state regretted that despite all his efforts to provide facilities and encouragement to the university, it appeared that the institution was more interested in politics than in learning. Dr Doe indicated that Liberia was today the only country in Africa, especially with a military government, where university authorities can demand that immediate release of a professor without trial despite criminal charges brought against such a professor.

According to an Executive Mansion press release, Commander in Chief Doe further noted that he considered the university position paper an autonomous statement as it consists only of a mass of signatures without names. The university's approach to the present political issue, Dr Doe said, is one of disappointment. The Executive Mansion release said as an institution of higher learning, it was expected that the university should have taken advantage of all its knowledgeable personalities to initiate a favored line of communication instead of provoking confrontation with a military government.

Meanwhile, according to the Executive Mansion release, a contingent of soldiers today fired into the air at the entrance of the university to send off a group of students who had gathered there attempting to disrupt the normal flow of human and motor traffic.

NIGERIA

Idiagbon Urges Settlement in Gulf War

AB230800 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Nigeria has pledged that it will continue cordial relations with Iran. Speaking while receiving the Iranian ambassador to Nigeria, Mohammed Menhaj, yesterday at Dodan Barracks, the chief of staff, supreme headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, called for amicable settlement of the Gulf War.

Brig Idiagbon urged the two warring countries to seek political as well as diplomatic means in ending the conflict in their own interest. He said that Nigeria was not happy about the war and stressed that no compromise is too much on the part of Iran and Iraq to end the protracted war. Brig Idiagbon commended Iran on the part played in fighting apartheid in South Africa and enjoined her to continue in the struggle so that the perpetrators of segregation should be put to shame in that part of the world.

The Iranian envoy had earlier briefed the chief of staff on the state of the war in the Gulf and accused the United States and some Asian countries of giving support to Iraq. The ambassador assured the Federal Military Government that Iran would improve on the already cordial relations between her and Nigeria, especially in the areas of trade and culture.

Idiagbon Receives Pakistani Envoy

AB210900 Lagos NAN in English 0800 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 20 (NAN) — The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, today in Lagos appealed to developing countries to avoid unnecessary conflicts that could lead to wars between them.

Receiving the Pakistani ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Aslam Zaki, who visited him at Dodan Barracks, Brig Idiagbon said that only developing nations were fighting one another while the superpowers produced the weapons for them. "The superpowers don't fight each other but we use our meager resources to buy weapons from them to kill ourselves," he declared. The chief of staff said that he was happy about the restraint shown by Pakistan on the Indo-Pakistani border dispute and urged the two countries to maintain peace in that sub-region. Brig Idiagbon also called on Pakistan to use its influence to end the Iraq-Iran war. He urged developing countries to come together to fight racism and imperialism wherever they existed. On the relationship between Nigeria and Pakistan, Brig Idiagbon gave the assurance that Nigeria would cooperate to further strengthen the bond of friendship between the two countries.

Earlier, Mr Zaki said that Nigeria should cooperate with his country in the areas of agriculture, irrigation and trade. He pleadged Pakistan's continued assistance to Nigeria at all times. On the Indo-Pakistani border dispute, Mr Zaki said that his country would always seek peaceful solutions to the issue.

Gambari Critical of Rulers' Trip to Israel

AB211130 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Newly appointed ambassadors have been urged to promote trade between their countries of accreditation and Nigeria. The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, stated this yesterday in Lagos while presenting credentials to the envoys. The minister said that the government welcomes foreign investment in the country, specially in agricultural and agro-based industries.

Dr Gambari reminded the envoys of the need to maintain public probity and said that their performance would be closely monitored. Fifteen ambassadors and high commissioners received their credentials at the ceremony.

In another development, the minister of external affairs said the Federal Government is not aware of the current visit to Israel by two traditional rulers. The traditional rulers are the Ooni of Ife, Oba Okunade Sijuwade, and the Emir of Kano, Alhaji Ado Bayero. Briefing newsmen in his office yesterday, Dr Gambari said that the government would have prevented the traditional rulers from traveling to Israel if it was aware of the visit. He remarked that Nigeria had not diplomatic relations with Israel, pointing out that the present military administration had no intention to renew diplomatic relations with that country.

Meanwhile, the minister leaves Lagos today for Saudi Arabia to assess the condition of Nigerian pilgrims who are already in the holy city to perform this year's hajj.

Leader: Israeli Visit 'Private'

AB221145 Lagos NAN in English 1141 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug. 22 (NAN) — The Ooni of Ife, Oba Okunade Sijuwade, said in Lagos yesterday that his visit to Jerusalem with the Emir of Kano, Alhaji Ado Bayero, was "absolutely private and has nothing to do with the Israeli Government." He told newsmen shortly on arrival at the Murtala Muhammed Airport, Ikeja, that the visit was for "spriritual rejuvenation," adding "nothing serious happened during our 24-hour stay in Jerusalem."

He said that while he worshipped on Mount Zion, "the Emir of Kano spent almost all of his time in the second largest mosque in the world in Jerusalem." "I have been visiting Jerusalem since 1961 to pray on Mount Zion. In my capacity as the chief priest of Yorubaland, it is normal for me to hold discussions and compare my experiences with the chief rabbi of Jerusalem," he said. The ooni said that he took advantage of his trip to recruit two Israeli agricultural experts to assist in his proposed farm project.

Reacting to the Federal Government's statement denouncing the visit, Oba Sijuwade explained that the government or the External Affairs Ministry was misinformed. "We are part of this administration and we will never contribute to its downfall. We have done nothing against the law. We are a party to the law," he said. He claimed that the Oyo Government was aware of his trip outside Nigeria. The ooni, however, declined to comment on his reported meeting with the Israeli leadership.

The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, told newsmen at the Murtala Muhammed Airport before his departure for Saudi Arabia, as leader of Nigerian pilgrims, that the Federal Government was opposed to the trip to Jerusalem by the two traditional rulers. "If they had asked for our opinion, we would have been against their going so as not to give the impression that we sanctioned the visit," he said. The minister had in a reaction to the visit on Monday said that the Federal Government was not aware of the visit and that Nigeria's attitude to Israel had not changed. According to him, the break in ties between Nigeria and Israel would be maintained on political and economic grounds.

Former Ondo Governor, Aides Acquitted of Charges

AB201955 Lagos NAN in English 1800 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Ibadan, Aug 20 (NAN) — The former governor of Ondo, Chief Adekunle Ajasin, and two of his former aides were today discharged and acquitted of all the four-count charge of corruptly enriching the proscribed UPN [Unity Party of Nigeria]. The aides are the former commissioner for trade and industry, Mrs Mobolaji Osomo, and the former chairman of the state's sports council, Mr Akin Majasan. [Words indistinct] for allegedly causing the sum of 600,000 Naira to be paid from the accounts of the Nigerian-Italian Ceramic Product Company Ltd., in Ifon near Akure, into the account of the proscribed UPN. The offence was said to have been committed between October 1979 and September 1983.

Delivering judgment, the chairman of the tribunal, Brigadier Charles Ndiomu, said that it was clear from the evidence before the tribunal that the N600,000 taken from the ceramic company's account was a loan to the proscribed UPN, and adding that it had been traced to the party's account at Owena Bank. He said that it was inappropriate for the company to give a loan to the party and it was also wrong for the party to take the loan. The chairman, however, said that the accused persons had no intention of defrauding the company and that it was clear that the loan was to be repaid without charges and interest.

"There is no doubt that the conduct of the accused persons in taking the loan from the company is improper but impropriety must be distinguished from dishonesty", he said. According to Brig Ndiomu, it was the tribunal's belief that the N600,000 was not a kickback, donation or bribe to the party. The chairman said that the tribunal believed the evidence of the defence and, therefore, all the charges against them should fail. Brig Ndiomu then ordered the release of the third accused person, Mr Majasan, but said that he lacked competence to release the other two now in detention under Decree 2 of 1984.

The tribunal also ordered that the balance in the UPN's account in Ondo, Oyo, Ogun, Bendel and Kwara be paid to the Federal Military Government but that if the amount realised was not enough to pay back the loan, the movable assets of the party should be auctioned to meet the repayment. After the judgment, Chief Ajasin thanked the tribunal and the Federal Military Government for the fair trial given to them.

It is the second time Chief Ajasin has been discharged and acquitted since the inception of the special military tribunals on the recovery of public property. He had earlier been discharged by the Lagos zone of the tribunal which tried him along with Chief Bola Ige and Bisi Onabanjo, former governors of Oyo and Ogun respectively, for corruptly enriching the proscribed UPN.

Paper Says Al-Qadhdhafi Cannot Dictate to Africans

AB211119 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] The *DAILY SKETCH* disagrees completely with a recent statement by the Libyan leader, Muammar al-Qadhdhafi, that African countries should choose between cooperating with Arab nations or Israel. The paper is of the opinion that the Libyan leader cannot dictate what form the foreign policy of African states should take.

Paper on African 'Flirtation' With RSA

AB221234 Dakar PANA in English 1216 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, 22 Aug. (NAN/PANA) — A Nigerian daily, the *NATIONAL CONCORD*, today described as "fraudulent flirtation with the racist devil", the report that South (?African) Prime Minister Pieter Botha would soon visit some African countries.

In its editorial, the newspaper said that such a move betrayed the collective aspirations of black Africa manifested in the Charter of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) which committed member states to strive to totally liberate Africa. What could Botha have to discuss with the leaders of Gabon, Zaire and Ivory Coast? it asked. Nothing could come out of a dialogue with the racist regime it said, adding that the Frontline States conceded to such a move not because it was the most desirable course of action but because they were totally forsaken by other African countries and "mercilessly pressurised by the racists."

The European leaders, for their part, embraced Botha to bolster the regime for its strategic importance to them, it said. The *NATIONAL CONCORD* noted that if the racist leaders had contemplated dialogue as a vehicle toward effecting internal changes, they should have initiated that process with the millions of black people within South Africa. African countries should desist from any dialogue with the racist regime because it would not yield any positive change, the newspaper concluded.

Payment of British Officials' Pensions Lauded

AB171305 Lagos International Service in English
0930 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] Viewed against recent developments in the Anglo-Nigerian relations, one cannot but see the payment by the Federal Military Government of Nigeria of the terminal pensions for former colonial British officials as an exemplary maturity in the conduct of the affairs of government. The payment has come even at this time of a depressed economy. This contrasts markedly from the hostile attitude of the British Government toward Nigeria, and which reached a boiling point last July.

This is not the first time the present government in Nigeria has demonstrated a gesture of goodwill to Britain. In April this year, for example, two British pilots violated Nigeria's security law when they illegally flew a jet out of Nigerian territory. But when Nigerian security agents caught up with the pilots in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, and British Embassy officials in Lagos and Abidjan intervened, Nigerian authorities gracefully allowed the erring Britons to go free. Again during the Dikko affair, the crew of a British Caledonian airliner which Nigerian authorities had detained in Lagos in retaliation for the arrest of a Nigeria Airways plane and its crew by the British Government, were given civilized and decent treatment.

In spite of all this, the Thatcher administration in London has pursued its inglorious policy of hostility and subversion toward Nigeria. Britain, under the government of Mrs Thatcher, has sought to ruin Nigeria's economy at the slightest opportunity. She has worked against Nigeria's interests in the world oil market and at world finance institutions such as the IMF. She has also openly encouraged unpatriotic Nigerians like fugitive Umaru Dikko to loot the country's treasury and invest such loot in Britain. Only a few days ago, the British Export Credit Guarantee Department rejected Nigeria's proposal for rescheduling the payment of her debt, insisting that the proposal will be considered only after Nigeria has secured a loan from the IMF — a precondition which is calculated to strangle the country's economy.

A less mature government would have reacted measure for measure to all the unfriendly acts by the Thatcher administration, but not the Federal Military Government of Nigeria, which has declared its determination to maintain good relations with all nations and honor all its genuine obligations. The payment of the terminal pensions of the ex-British colonial officials, in spite of provocations from London, is a testimony of Nigeria's faith in good relations.

SENEGAL

Cameroon Minister Brings Biya Message to Diouf

AB212235 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] Cameroon Foreign Affairs Minister William Eteki Mboumoua arrived in Dakar late this morning. The Cameroonian head of state's special envoy, who brought a message from President Paul Biya to President Abdou Diouf, was welcomed by Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse and will be received in audience by President Abdou Diouf at the Presidential Palace late this afternoon.

There is no doubt that this visit falls within the framework of the friendly relations and mutual esteem which have existed between President Abdou Diouf and Paul Biya, since they were prime ministers and which have made the Senegal-Cameroon bilateral cooperation a dynamic one, especially after the working visit paid to Cameroon by the head of state in 1981.

Delivers Message, Departs

AB221345 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Cameroonian Foreign Minister William Eteki Mboumoua left Dakar this morning, after delivering a message from President Paul Biya to President Abdou Diouf. He was seen off by Armed Forces Minister Medoune Fall, in the absence of Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives Chadian RFP Delegation

AB211840 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] The president of the Republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, this morning received a delegation of the Rally of the Chadian Patriotic Forces [RFP] led by Facho Baalam. This new movement was formed following a meeting held in Ouagadougou from 9 to 12 August. According to Facho Baalam, the delegation is in Togo to inform President Eyadema of the outcome of their meeting because of his continued interest in the Chadian problem.

[Begin recording] [Baalam] From the 9th to 12th of August, we held a meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, out of which a new organization was formed. This group broke away from the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] in order to assert its national identity and its desire to search for a lasting peace in Chad. After the meeting, we were charged with the mission of reporting the outcome of this meeting to President Eyadema, who has always shown interest in the Chadian problem. As you all know, he even paid a visit to Chad in the heat of the war. We reported on our meeting and at the same time asked for his views on what we have just done.

[Unidentified reporter] You are a member of the rally of the RFP and, as you are aware, the people of Togo and all the people of Africa as well as the Chadians [words indistinct] for development. How does the RFP plan to contribute toward the search for a lasting peace in Chad?

[Baalam] I will say outright that the present institutions, whether the one headed by Hissein Habre or the one headed by Goukouni Oueddei, cannot restore peace to Chad. We must overcome the personal conflicts in order to restore a lasting peace in Chad, because the Chadian problem must no longer be seen as a problem of Habre or of Goukouni. It is a national problem. The strategy of the RFP in this regard is to mobilize all Chadians, wherever they are and whoever they are, and also to mobilize all peace- and justice-loving countries to assist us in finding a lasting peace in Chad without any foreign intervention or war. We believe that our misfortune, the misfortune of Chad, is that since Chad went to war, the country has been devastated and others intervene only to supply us arms; but it is not arms that we need now. We need assistance in our effort to economically and socially develop the country. What can we do with arms? We do not produce arms; we are supplied with arms for us kill each other. They are happy to find markets for their arms while we kill each other. It is our parents, our brothers, our wives, our children who are dying. We can no longer continue with this masquerade. We want peace, and this is why we say that we welcome all nations and men of goodwill who can help us find a peaceful solution, which will not involve Habre and Goukouni because everybody believes that [words indistinct] Chad will not be able to achieve peace and unity. [end recording]

Present at the meeting was Gbegnon Amegboh, minister delegate to the presidency in change of information, posts, and telecommunications.

ANGOLA

Yugoslav Delegation Arrives for Discussions

Ministers Hold first Meetings

MB221013 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] An official source in Luanda reported that a delegation led by Nenad Bucin, member of the Presidium of the Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia and member of the presidential college [as heard], has been in Luanda since day before yesterday.

Nenad Bucin, who will leave Angola tomorrow, met yesterday with Paulo Jorge, Angolan minister of foreign affairs and member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. Also yesterday the Yugoslavian official was received by Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, Angolan minister of defense and member of the Politburo of the MPLA Party.

Talks Opened by Lara

MB221953 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The official talks between the MPLA-Labor Party and the Socialist Alliance of SFRY began in Luanda today. Headed respectively by Comrade Lucio Lara, the secretary for organization of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee; and Nenad Bucin, member in the presidency of the Socialist Allicance, the two sides discussed issues related to the increase of bilateral relations and the consolidation of joint action toward peace and friendship among the peoples. At the opening of the talks between the two parties, Comrade Lucio Lara made the following impromptu speech:

[Begin recording]. On behalf of our Central Committee we greet with much joy this important delegation of the Socialist Alliance with whom we have maintained close links for many years, which we intend to consolidate [words indistinct] friendship [words indistinct] support from the Yugoslav people and through the Socialist Alliance or through the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and we therefore became used to seeing in you very inimate and sincere friends of our country. [passage indistinct].

These were the words of Comrade Lucio Lara, the secretary for organization of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee at the opening of official talks between the MPLA-Labor Party and the Socialist Allicance of Yugoslavia.

In response, Nenad Bucin, member in the presidency of Socialist Alliance of Yugoslavia, thanked the hospitality of the Angolan people and stressed that his visit will allow the strengthening of the friendship ties which unite his party and the MPLA-Labor Party. Today Nenad Bucin is expected to visit (Pombal) enterprise, four-times winner of the annual campaign of socialist emulation, and is expected to visit the museum of [words indistinct] tomorrow, his last working day in Angola.

USSR Parliamentary Delegation Arrives on Visit

Group Welcomed at Airport

MB221422 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] At the invitation of the People's Assembly a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet arrived in our country this morning. The delegation is led by Antans Stasevich Barkauskas, who is deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, and chairman of the Presidium of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet.

On his arrival at the 4 February International Airport, the Soviet official began by expressing his satisfaction for being in Angola. Stasevich Barkauskas also expressed the desire of all members of the delegation that accompany him to exchange views with the Angolan leaders on common interest issues during their visit and study the means to increasingly deepen Soviet-Angolan cooperation at the legislative levels in both countries.

The Supreme Soviet delegation will tour several economic and social centers and is expected to travel to one of the country's provinces where it will hold talks with the organizations of the provincial People's Assembly. At the 4 February Airport, Stasevich Barkauskas and the delegation that accompany him were welcomed by (Casimiro Sergio Fanco), second secretary of the People's Assembly.

Meeting Held With De Almeida

MB230909 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who is leading a soviet parliamentary delegation on a visit to Angola since yesterday, had his second meeting yesterday with Angolan leaders, including Roberto de Almeida, the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee secretary for the ideological sphere.

In speeches delivered by both leaders at the opening of the talks, they spoke about strengthening relations between the two parliaments. Antans Stasevich Barkauskas met yesterday on his arrival with a delegation of the People's Assembly led by Deputy Lopo do Nascimento with whom he reviewed issues of bilateral interest.

President Dos Santos Makes Stops in Europe

Visit to Yugoslavia 'Private'

MB200610 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola has been in the SFRY for several days on a private and friendly visit.

The Angolan head of state has already maintained some contact with the senior authorities of the Yugoslavian Government and party, with a view to strengthening the traditional friendship and solidarity ties existing between the two countries.

Attends Bucharest Celebrations

MB230905 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has been in Bucharest since yesterday to attend the festivities today of the liberation of Romania from the Nazi yoke.

Yesterday, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos held his first meeting with Nicolae Ceausescu, Romanina head of state, on the developments in relations between Angola and Romania in party and government cooperation.

LESOTHO

Jonathan Speaks to Students Going Abroad

MB221807 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister, Rt Hon Dr Leabua Jonathan, says that Lesotho cannot afford to be static, but has to be dynamic because changes will continue to occur, and a wise nation strives to adapt to these changes. Addressing 38 Basotho students today who are due to leave shortly for further studies in socialist countries under the auspices of the Basotho National Party [BNP], Dr Jonathan said Lesotho has to develop manpower as the country's greatest resource.

The prime minister said that the BNP, unlike other parties — notably the Basotho Congress Party — did not opt for studies in socialist countries. Basotho at that time did not think it was opportune. He added that the party had to move at the pace of the people in accordance with their wishes. However, the majority of Basotho have to accept that study in a socialist country does not mean the adoption of communism as an ideology as much as studying in the capitalist world does not mean embracing that ideology.

Dr Jonathan said emphasis should equally be laid on technical and vocational education to enable some Basotho to learn certain crafts which will make them artisans and technicians. The prime minister said that Basotho have to market more skilled manpower in order to increase the value of their labor to earn this country the much-needed foreign exchange. He quoted Japan as a country which, like Lesotho, has no mineral resources but was able to develop its manpower efficiently to make it one of the leading industrialized countries in the world. Dr Jonathan urged the students to work hard in their studies for their own glory, for the glory of their parents, and for the benefit of Lesotho.

The 38 Basotho students will study various fields in the Soviet Union, Cuba, the GDR, and Bulgaria. Other words of wisdom were conveyed to the students by the minister of works, who is also the assistant secrtary of the BNP, Mr Lekhoana Jonathan; and the minister of education, sport, and culture, Mr (J.S.L. Khotsokoane).

MALAWI

Minister Warns Against Disturbing Peace

MB221059 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of trade, industry, and tourism, Mr Katola Phiri, has warned people in Kasungu that the government will not tolerate anyone disturbing the prevailing peace and calm, law and order in the country. Mr Katola Phiri gave the warning at a public meeting he addressed at (Moduwa) trading center in Kasungu yesterday. He said the government wants everyone to enjoy the freedom and independence to the maximum and that anyone causing problems would be severely dealt with.

The minister advised the party leaders in the district to intensify party work and urged the people to renew their party membership in large numbers in order to strengthen the party. Mr Katola Phiri also called on parents to send more children to school to prepare them for future responsibilities.

MOZAMBIQUE

Colonel Comments on Problems of Bandits

MB221128 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Zacarias Tivane has told the Radio Mozambique station in Beira that the armed bandits are encountering organizational and logistical crisis in Gorongoza District. Lt Col Zacarias Tivane stressed the fact that the armed bandits are at this moment roaming in small groups of two to three individuals looking for defenseless members of the public to rob them of food. On operations carried out against the armed bandits in Gorongoza District, Zacarias Tivan said that a number of farms that had been under the criminals' control by force have been freed by the Mozambique Armed Forces.

Top Frelimo Figure Denies Deal With RENAMO

MB222017 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The Mozambican Government has not negotiated a settlement with Mozambique National Resistance [RENAMO] rebels. That is the word from a top Frelimo government official who has asked to remain nameless. He says reports that the government of Samora Machel had made a deal with RENAMO that would share power and liberalize the economy are, in his words, without foundation.

Machel Meets With Honecker, Li Xiannian

MB221401 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Live report from Bucharest by (Suleiman Kadir)]

[Excerpts] President Samora Machel is at this very moment having a meeting with Erich Honecker, Socialist Unity Party general secretary and chairman of the GDR Council of State, at the place the GDR leader is staying in Bucharest. This is the second meeting that the Mozambique president is holding with a foreign head of state here in Bucharest, capital of Romania.

As you may recall, Li Xiannian, president of the PRC, yesterday met with President Machel for about 2 hours. For now, and as the Samora Machel-Erich Honecker meeting has not yet ended, it is not possible for us to provide any detail on the content of the talks. We expect to give you details in our second report.

Some details have already emerged about yesterday's talks between Li Xiannian and Samora Machel. On cooperation with the PRC, reports gathered in Bucharest indicate that teams of Chinese technicians are arriving in Mozambique to work in the sectors of agriculture, food industry, and textiles. Mozambique and China thus want to reformulate the previous economic cooperation scheme, thus forging ahead with what can be considered as joint ventures [preceding two words in English], or joint enterprises. Thus, the Chinese will participate in the training of Mozambicans in the fields of management, administration, and other areas so as to ensure that in the future the projects will guaranteed of continuation and normal functioning with Mozambican cadres.

Regarding the political situation, yesterday's talks between President Samora Machel and Li Xiannian centered on the situation in Southeast Asia and on the conflict in Indochina.

Joaquim Chissano, the Mozambique foreign minister, this morning toured Europe's biggest textile factory, located in Bucharest. The enterprise has more than 16,000 workers, and its total production is valued at $90 million annually. A big part of clothes for men, women, and children are exported to France, the United States, Britain, the USSR, the PRC, and various African countries, including Sudan.

It is not yet known whether the planned meeting between Yasir 'Arafat and President Samora Machel will take place. The PLO leader is expected in Bucharest today. However, before this meeting, we expect that, perhaps today after the opening of the official commemorations of the 40th anniversary of the revolution of the Socialist Republic of Romania, President Samora Machel will have another meeting, this time with Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the People's Republic of Angola.

It has not yet been confirmed whether it will be held today or not, as the program of the opening of the official commemorations may be very tight which may not make it possible for President Samora Machel to meet the Angolan president today. However, the meeting between the two presidents has been already confirmed. If it not held today, it will possibly be held in 2 days as tomorrow will be totally filled with a program for the commemorations of this 40th anniversary of the revolution of the Socialist Republic of Romania for foreign delegations.

NAMIBIA

Voice of Namibia on SWAPO Angola Meeting

MB210736 Harare Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] The Central Committee of SWAPO of Namibia held its annual meeting in the Peoples Republic of Angola from 7 to 11 August in 1984. The meeting critically reviewed and fully analyzed the current grave situation in and around Namibia. The meeting was opened by the president of SWAPO, Comrade Dr Sam Nujoma, whose statement was endorsed by acclamation. The Central Committee welcomed with profound appreciation a message of support and solidarity addressed to it by the MPLA worker's party. It also appreciated with thanks the fraternal message of the ANC of South Africa.

The Central Committee concluded that in Namibia, the obstructionist state apparatus has set up a campaign of terror, oppression, and repression against the Namibian population. This terror has been in the form of mass arrests, wanton killing, torture, detention of the Namibian people, and destruction of their property. Around Namibia the Pretoria racist regime has intensified its dangerous and vicious acts of aggression, destabilization, and other unwarranted activities against the neighboring states in a vain attempt to ground these states into submission, and force them to stop support to SWAPO and ANC in their struggle for genuine independence and democracy in Namibia and South Africa, respectively.

The situation is particularly aggrevated by the reactionary policy of the so-called constructive engagement of the Reagan administration, which only strengthens their continued illegal occupation of Namibia. South Africa, with the active support of the Reagan administration, effectively parades and portrays itself as a peacemaker, with a view to misleading world public opinion.

At the same time, our movement, which is fighting a legitimate and just struggle, is labelled as a peace breaker. The Central Committee is convinced that the real motive behind South Africa's so called peace initiative is to raise false expectations of imminent independence of Namibia, with a view to overcome the apartheid regime's international isolation. The Central Committee unanimously agreed that racist South Africa was not demonstrating willingness and readiness to terminate her illegal occupation of Namibia.

The Central Committee therefore unresevedly condemned the ongoing maneuvers and delaying tactics, especially the extraneous and irrelevant issue of linkage advocated by racist South Africa and the Reagan administration. The linkage issue is aimed at delaying Namibia's independence in favor of continued economic and strategic interests of the West. It further condemned the United States administration and its allies for giving political, material, and economic support which enabled racist Pretoria regime to continue its brutal suppression of our people.

The Central Committtee paid special tribute to the combatants of the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia for their brilliant military exploits against the racist occupation forces in Namibia. It is our resolve to continue mobilizing the Namibian masses for a protracted popular resistance and armed liberation struggle. In this regard, the Central Committee commends the Namibian patriots, who have responded to SWAPO's clarion call in rejecting the neocolonial arrangements in Namibia, and calls on all professionals to do likewise. In this context, the Central Committee vowed to continue intensifying the armed liberation struggle as the most effective way of achieving genuine freedom and independence for Namibia.

The Central Committee called upon the international community, especially the United Nations, to be satisfied in demanding the immediate implementation of Security Council Resolution 453. In this regard, SWAPO stands ready to negotiate with South Africa the implementation of Resolution 435, provided South Africa shows seriousness.

The Central Committee welcomes the release of Comrade Andimba Toivo ja Toivo and other comrades as a victory for the Namibian people and the international community who fought and campaigned for their release. In this connection, Comrade Andimba Toivo ja Toivo was proclaimed a hero of the Namibian peoples' movement and was unanimously elected secretary general of SWAPO. It further called for the immediate and unconditional release of all the other political prisoners.

The Central Committee noted with great appreciation the continued support and some assistance rendered by the MPLA Workers' Party, its government and the revolutionary Angolan people for struggling Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO. It extends profound thanks to the other Frontline States, the OAU, the socialist community of nations, especially the Soviet Union, the nonaligned countries, the Nordic countries, as well as democratic and progressive forces and individuals in the capitalist countries, for their strong material and monetary assistance rendered to the struggling Namibian people through SWAPO. The Central Committee reaffirms SWAPO's bond of solidarity for the struggling people of South Africa led by the ANC, of Western Sahara under the leadership of the Polisario Front, the Palestinian people under PLO, the people of Latin America, as well as other progressive comrades who are fighting for national liberation, democracy and social justice.

SOUTH AFRICA

Arrests, Demonstrations Accompany Balloting

Release of Detainees Considered

MB221123 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1059 GMT 22 Aug 84

[By T. Wentzel]

[Text] Cape Town, Aug, 22, SAPA — The release of those detained would be considered if it became clear that peace and order had been restored, the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, said today.

The detentions throughtout the country were carried out because a potentially revolutionary situation had been created in certain areas on the eve of the house of representatives election, he said. Because the police were still engaged in intensive investigations he could not say how many people were being detained.

According to United Democratic Front [UDF] sources, 16 UDF office-bearers and 19 others had been detained.

Mr le Grange said he realised there would be opposition criticism, but the government had a duty it was not prepared to shirk. This was to ensure that supporters of parties participating in the House of Representatives elections could exercise their right to vote. It had become necessary to defuse a potentially dangerous situation.

He again gave assurance that all branches of the police would today be ready for any event. The detained people are being held in terms of section 28 of the Internal Security Act of 1982. This deals with the detention of people to prevent certain offences, or the endangering of state security, or the maintenance of law and order. These detentions can be indefinite.

Mr le Grange said the police were aware of attempts to promote a revolutionary climate in the country and would have acted, even if the elections were not being held now. The government would not allow the country to be disrupted, nor would it allow young people to be misused for agitation.

The UDF and some of its affiliates had for a considerable time threatened to disrupt the elections. Some individuals and organisations were also actively involved in school boycotts in several parts of the country. The government had repeatedly warned them to stop their activities. As they had regarded these warnings as a challenge to further radical action, it was clear they could only be kept under control if action was taken against them, Mr le Grange said.

Colored Students Boycotting Classes

MB221453 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1433 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Aug 22, SAPA — About 630,000 Coloured pupils stayed away from school today, the Directorate of Coloured Education reported as Coloured voters went to the polls to elect members of the House of Representatives.

Some 30,000 black pupils and thousands of Indian and white students have also boycotted some schools and university lectures around the country. The black boycott is not over the election issue. There was widespread student unrest across the Witwatersrand and schoolchildren were held by police as class boycotts and demonstrations spread. In Riverlea, Johannesburg, 31 pupils and students were arrested for holding an unlawful gathering and in other parts of the country the police have cracked down on demonstrations at polling booths. At the University of the Witwatersrand, about 300 students who had boycotted lectures today were met at the university's Jorissen Street entrance by about 25 sjambok-carrying policemen.

Thousands of black, Coloured and Indian schoolchildren and students stayed away from classes in protest against the Coloured elections. A spokesman for the black students society at Wits said many students would join the boycott. A precarious peace was maintained in most Coloured areas despite extensive class boycott.

The principal of a Bosmont High School said all 1200 pupils were boycotting classes and the head of the school in Kliptown said his school "was not very full." About 40 percent of the 1150 pupils at Kliptown High School stayed away.

Thousands of black pupils also boycotted classes today — for several reasons, including the Coloured elections. It was quiet in Tembisa after disturbances yesterday in which pupils attacked a teacher, set schools alight and damaged houses and a shop. The principals of the Moletsane Secondary School and Sekano Ntoane High School in Soweto reported full attendance of pupils this morning. There were no incidents. There were big stayaways at Ibhongo High school today in Soweto. At the Soweto campus of Vista University, students held a meeting this morning on the premises.

Thousands of pupils attended classes at Alexandra today, but Minerva High School remained deserted. Classes were suspended earlier this month. Pupils from the Lekor-Shandu secondary school in Sharpeville continued to boycott classes in protest against rent increases in the township.

Hundreds of Indian students kept up their boycott at two out of four Lenasia schools today, and at the Johannesburg Indian High in Fordsburg. In the Cape Peninsula, at least 7,000 pupils are boycotting classes. There was a complete stayaway at five schools in the area.

Pretoria's black, Coloured and Indian residential areas remained calm early today as Medunsa students continued to boycott lectures in protest against the tricameral elections. Medunsa students left the campus in four buses this morning to picket at Eersterus, a Coloured township near Mamelodi. The Atridgeville/Saulsville area — where schools were closed by the Department of Education and Training earlier this year — continued class boycotts, but was quiet.

(Reports by D. Braun, 47 Sauer Street, Johannesburg and M. Rowley and S. Mostert, 122 St Georges Street, Cape Town).

Police Arrest Demonstrators

MB221247 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1230 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Aug 22, SAPA — Police today arrested peaceful demonstrators at polling booths around the country as coloured elections got underway. Polling in most parts of the country was reported to be slow. In the Transvaal constituency of Toekomsrus, police this morning arrested placard-carrying members of the United Democratic Front [UDF] and pupils of the C.J. Botha High School from Bosmont who lined the streets in a demonstration near the polling station. The demonstrators had been standing at least 15m apart with placards calling for a boycott of the elections and other slogans like "a vote for the army... never." A police spokesman refused to give reasons for the arrests.

Police arrested 14 Medunsa students who staged a peaceful anti-election demonstration at the Central Eersterust polling station near Pretoria. It is understood they were taken to the Silverton Police Station. They will probably be charged with disturbing the peace. About 300 Medunsa students staged the demonstration and the scene was tense as many openly hostile voters waited to see what the demonstrators would do. One angry Labour Party worker warned that the demonstrators should not get out of their buses — "Or the people will tear them apart."

In Grahamstown, police arrested 18 Rhodes University students, including the SRV [Student Representative Council] president, Mr Alan Williams. The group, which includes other members of the SRC, was demonstrating against the new constitution and had one placard. A lawyer acting on behalf of the group said he had been told the students would be charged under a Cape Provincial ordinance from 1950, which states that no placards are allowed to be displayed without prior consent from a magistrate. "The police told me they would appear in court this afternoon," he said.

In the Greenwood Park constituency in Natal, two members of the anti-election United Committee of Concern were asked to leave the vicinity of a polling station by members of the security police. At Reiger Park, Boksburg, where Transvaal Labour Party leader Mr Jac Rabie is candidate, the road in front of the community hall was cordoned off and police and traffic inspectors were on hand in case of trouble. About 15 percent of the voters had cast their ballots by noon. Security was tight at Eldorado Park, Johannesburg, with uniformed officers and plainclothes security men present. About 700 people had voted by midday.

Voting was steady during the first hour's polling at the main polling station in Pietersburg, one of the main centres in the northern Transvaal constituency. There were no signs of intimidation or boycott demonstrations at the local Coloured school where a long queue was waiting at 7am. Party workers expect most of the constituency's 1300 registered voters are likely to cast their ballots.

Voting got off to an orderly but slow start in the Cape Peninsula with police outnumbering voters at several polling stations.

PFP Condemns Arrests

MB221307 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Progressive Federal Party. [PFP], Dr Alex Borraine, says it was stupid to arrest people on the eve of the colored elections, and this action could generate violence. Dr Borraine was addressing a conference on conflict accomodation at the University of Cape Town. Also speaking at the conference, the National Party member of parliament for Randburg, Mr Wynand Malan, said it was clear there had been a change of thinking in the National Party as far as the urbanization of blacks was concerned. He said the government had changed its influx control policy to one of urbanization.

AZAPO Official Detained

MB221359 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1139 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Cape Town, Aug 22, SAPA — Mr Peter Jones, vice-president of the Azanian People's Organisation [AZAPO], has been detained near Cape Town under section 28 of the Internal Security Act, a police spokesman confirmed today. Mr Jones was a close associate of black consciousness leader, Mr Steve Biko, who died in detention in 1977 when both were detained. At least 10 prominent United Democratic Front personalities have been detained in the Cape, and a number of other people have been arrested and in some cases convicted in the past 24 hours. Among these were 15 youths in Middelburg, Cape, who were arrested yesterday and convicted for holding an illegal gathering, police confirmed. Twelve boys received strokes while the three girls had their sentences postponed. Lawyers are to appeal.

Ravensmead youth leader, Mr Trevor Wentzel, has been arrested under the police act for allegedly refusing to supply has name and for resisting arrest, a police spokesman said. He added that three people had been arrested in Bonteheuwel for allegedly holding an illegal gathering and displaying placards. Police have also confirmed six arrests in Oudtshoorn and two in Graaff-Reint in connection with illegal gatherings and putting up posters illegally.

Police Still Detain 152

MB231245 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The police are still detaining 152 people in connection with alleged violations of laws and provincial ordinances during yesterdays election. A police spokesman told our Pretoria news staff that 43 arrests had been made on the Witwatersrand, 18 in the Free State, 18 in the Western Province, 6 on the East Rand, 3 in Soweto, and 2 in Natal. Those arrested would appear in court in due course.

Our Durban news staff reports that a large group of rioters was dispersed by police in the Mbali residential area near Pietermaritzburg this morning after incidents of stone throwing. The houses of local councillors were pelted with stones, but police say no one was injured and there were no arrests. The minister of cooperation and development, Dr Koornhof, is to visit the area today. On the East Rand, there were isolated incidents of stone throwing.

Eldorado Park Offices Bombed

MB222114 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2111 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Aug 22, SAPA — A petrol bomb exploded at the offices of the housing board in Eldorado Park extension 2 tonight, causing extensive damage. The bomb exploded as the last voters cast their ballots in elections for the Colored House of Representatives in the new tricameral parliament.

Firemen raced through the streets with torches searching for fire hydrants after it was discovered that someone — possibly the same people responsible for the blast — had removed signs indicating the location of fire hydrants. The blaze was finally extinguished by a fire engine and people who carried water from a nearby bathroom.

A large number of files containing requests for accommodation from the board were rescued from the fire by an unkown man who carried the trunks containing the files out of the building.

Eyewitnesses said those responsible for the bombing threw stones through the windows of the offices before hurling the bomb through a rear window. One of the offices in the building was gutted, while three other offices were extensively damaged.

Another petrol bomb exploded tonight at the home of Mr J.W. Christiaans, the Labour Party candidate in Ravensmead, Cape. The blast caused damaged estimated at r5000. Two students of the University of the Western Cape were held for questioning by police after the blast.

More Demonstrators Arrested

MB221346 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Police have arrested more than 200 people who were demonstrating against the Colored elections. Reports say 200 students have been arrested near Johannesburg at Riverlea, which is a constituency in the elections. Six people were arrested at nearby Bosmont. A police official has declined to give the reasons for their arrests.

At Eersterus near Pretoria about 20 students from Medical University of South Africa [MEDUNSA] were arrested while staging a peaceful demonstration against the elections. In Johannesburg, four people are reported to have been detained. They have been identified as (Mzwake Mbule), an artist, (Emmanuel Mapetswa), and Council of South African Students organizer (Kennie Phitle) and his sister, (Dessie).

Yesterday 35 United Democratic Front [UDF] members were detained in police raids throughout the country. Among them is the Natal president of the UDF, Archie Gumede. And we have just heard that former general secretary of the South African Allied Worker's Union, (Sam Kikine), is also in police custody.

All detainees arrested in Natal yesterday have been transferred to Pietermaritzburg and are now being held under the Internal Security Act. So says Natal Indian Congress Executive Member (Zac Jacoob):

[Begin recording] The lawyer representing the detainees has spoken to Brigadier van den Hooven, Security Branch, who has indicated that all detainees are now being held in terms of the provisions of Section 28 of the Internal Security Act. All have been transferred to Pietermaritzburg. This means that they are liable to be detained indefinitely until the minister decides otherwise. [end recording]

Labor Party Landslide in First Colored Elections

Labor Party Apparent Winner

MB222230 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2224 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Aug 22, SAPA — The Labour Party today appeared headed for an overwhelming majority in the House of Representatives. With some 30 of the results of today's election in the 80 constituencies having been announced by midnight, the Labour Party had conceded only one seat — Ottery in the Cape being taken by the Peoples' Congress Party in a low percentage poll of 8.3.

Clashes between police and anti-election demonstrators and sporadic incidents of violence occured in several constituencies throughout the country and more than 150 people were reported detained in connection with political protest as Coloured people became the first to vote in terms of the new constitution for the tricameral parliament.

With the outcome of the election barely in any doubt, the attention of observers and analysts both at home and abroad focused on the percentage poll. The poll in some 30 results announced by midnight averaged about 17 percent. It is supposed that a "low" poll will indicate that Coloured people reject the "new dispensation" and its provision for parliamentary chambers for whites, Coloreds and Indians on a 4:2:1 ratio, with no representation for the country's black majority, while a "high" poll will vindicate the government's "reform initiative."

Inevitably, both proponents of participation, headed by the Labour leader, The Reverend Allan Hendrickse — himself a former security laws detainee — and those opposed to the new system on the grounds that it entrenches apartheid, spearheaded by the broadly-based United Democratic Front alliance [UDF] which urged a boycott of the election, will claim victory.

The UDF and its affiliates are likely to claim that a poll of less than 50 percent represents a triumph for its boycott call, while participating parties will claim a poll of anything greater than 15 percent is a fair turnout in the face of what they call intimidation rather than persuasion of voters by the anti-election front. Analysts and academics are bound to have a difficult time interpreting the percentage poll to decide whether voters were in fact influenced by the stay-away call in the event of a poll anywhere between 15 and 40 percent.

The problem is complex: 100 percent cannot be seen as the base figure — even in white general elections where no boycott call is made the average poll rarely exceeds 60 percent; in previous elections for the Coloured representative council polls have been low, 30 percent or considerably less; and many of those registered to vote today were registered only this year and have never exercised a vote before.

Whatever the precentage poll, however, each constituency will return a member of the House of Representatives — and the same will be true in next week's House of Delegates election — and that will enable the system to work, despite claims that a low percentage poll will rob the new system of legitimacy, and the government is determined to press ahead with implementing the new constitution.

By midnight SATV commentators said several voting trends were becoming clear: The Orange Free State constituencies were recording the highest polls, of up to 50 percent, and polls in the Eastern Cape and the Witwatersrand were above 30 percent while the polls in Cape peninsula constituencies appeared to be the lowest in the country at under 10 percent.

Latest updated figures released in Pretoria by the chief electoral officer show that 917,304 Colored voters were registered by yesterday, 10,210 more than announced last month.

Voters were to elect 76 members to the 80-seat House of Representatives. Four Labor party candidates have already been elected unopposed.

Four parties contested the election but only two parties, the Labour Party and the People's Congress Party, contested enough seats to win. The other two parties are the Freedom Party and the Reformed Freedom Party.

Only 4 Results Left

MB231241 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The Labor Party of the Reverend Hendrickse has pushed its overwhelming majority in the first general election of the House of Representatives still further.

Of the 80 constituencies, the results of 76 are known, and the Labor Party has won 72 seats. The only other party which won a seat was the People's Congress Party in the Ottery constituency in the Cape Peninsula. Independent candidates won the Bokkeveld and Riversdale seats, and there was a tie in the Transvaal constituency of Bosmont. The leader of the Freedom Party, Mr Arthur Booysen, and his Labor Party opponent, Mr D.D. Nieuwenhoudt, each received 834 votes. There will have to be a by-election in the constituency.

Our elections staff reports that the latest percentage poll is 31.06, with only four results outstanding.

Party Leaders, Opposition Comment on Poll Results

Voter Turnout Discussed

MB230654 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] In his reaction [to the parliamentary elections] the minister of internal affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk, blamed the low percentage poll largely on what he described as the previous silent intimidation of voters.

In an interview with the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] Mr de Klerk said a provisional analysis indicated that intimidation had been more successful in certain areas such as in the Cape Peninsula than elsewhere in the country. He also suggested other factors that might have given rise to the relatively low percentage poll.

Mr de Klerk said it had been decided in principle that no one should be disenfranchised. As a result there were names on the voters rolls which has been placed there 15 years ago. Many of these had remained untraced. Mr de Klerk and his department were generally satisfied with the way in which the elections had proceeded, particularly as far as the logistical operation was concerned.

The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said the estimated percentage poll of 30 was accetable. In an interview with the SABC, he said that various factors had to be borne in mind when interpreting the percentage poll. He referred among other things, to the negative publicity the elections and the run up to the elections had received. In addition, the participating parties had had limited financial and organizational resources.

As far as the Labor Party's overwhelming majority was concerned, Mr Heunis foresaw no problems arising from the absence of a strong majority in the house of representatives. Mr Heunis emphasized the government's intention to go ahead with the new constitutional dispensation despite the relatively low percentage poll.

In reaction received from leaders of political parties which took part in the elections, the Reverend Allan Hendrickse said he was encouraged and had confidence in the new future South Africa was entering. He said the Colored people knew where they wanted to go.

Mr Marais said the People's Congress Party would be the official opposition in the House of Representatives, and would play its part in this capacity. He said his party had been organizationally unprepared for the elections.

Opposition Leader Comments

MB230725 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0653 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Cape Town, Aug 23, SAPA — With 62 of the 80 results known, the overall impression is that the election has not been an inspiring or convincing mandate for the new constitution, the leader of the opposition in the House of Assembly, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, said in a statement today.

"In some instances the Cape Peninsula candidates have become fully fledged members of parliament in two- or three-cornered fights with less than ten percent of the registered persons voting," Dr Slabbert said.

"The outcome makes one thing quite clear, an overwhelming responsibility lies now on the government to show that the 66 percent mandate it received from the white electorate in the referendum can be used to prove that the new constitution is a step in the right direction. Certainly so far, no Colored MP has such a mandate from his own constituency whatever his good intentions.

"The very low poll in the peninsula can be described to a numbe rof factors: apathy, ignorance, the genuine rejection of the new deal and intimidation from various quarters, but this has to be offset against the massive and sustained propaganda campaign from government-controlled media and government agencies themselves in favor of participation as an exercise in marketing to match anything done for the 'yes' vote in the referendum last year. Then the government had a marketing triumph. This year they have an unqualified flop.

"The new parliament starts off with a credibility problem and it is going to demand all the ingenuity and resources of those who serve in it to demostrate that South Africa is constitutionally better off than what it was and that the three-chamber parliament is indeed a step in the right direction. All of us in it will have to make of it as best we can," he said.

SWAZILAND

Police Chief Denies Security Pact With Mozambique

MB221515 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English
22 Aug 84 p. 20

[Text] The commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, disclosed yesterday that he had recently returned from Mozambique where he headed a delegation to meet with security officials there for consultations on security between the two countries.

Mr Simelane denied rumours that while in Mozambique he had signed a security pact with the Mozambique Government and pointed out that such matters are handled only by heads of governments. "The police and the Army have no authority to sign pacts with foreign governments. Only government representatives can do this," he said.

He stated that the purpose of his visit to Mozambique was purely to consult security officials and to help establish a committee to look into security involving the two countries. The committee, he said, will meet every month for discussions.

Hundreds of Mozambique Refugees Cross Border

MB230804 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND
in English 23 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] Mozambicans seeking refuge in Swaziland are on a stampede at the Lomahasha border fence. At least 500 of them, including families with small children, have jumped the fence into the kingdom since the begining of this week, eye witnesses said yesterday. "The number is growing by the hour," a government official said.

Social welfare officials disclosed that most of the Mozambicans were without accommodations and were spending nights in the open. "Only those who are luckly have been offered shelter by the villagers in the area, but many of them do not have anywhere to go as far as we could see," they said.

As a result, the Baphalali Red Cross Society said it would this morning send trucks and personnel to provide whatever aid is necessary to the estranged Mozambicans. A spokesman for the society said: "We are going there first thing in the morning because from what we hear, our help is definitely needed down there."

The Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Interior, Mr Vusi Mamba, was unable to suggest the reason behind the situation. He said: "I have not been down there to see for myself. What I have are details from the Regional Administrator of the Lubombo District."

Mr Mamba said he intended to send a delegation from his ministry to collect firsthand information and determine what should be done. He stated that according to the regional administrator the influx had begun a week ago.

He said: "As you know, the problem of Mozambicans entering the country illegally has been going on for a long time. However, it seems to have started raising eyebrows when an unprecedented number of them arrived at the same time on successive occasions in the past week. They are arriving in different groups in various parts of the Lomahasha area. Some of them have returned to their country but many of them keep coming back again."

Mr Mamba said offices in Lubombo were presently busy registering the Mozambican as they arrive as refugees. "As I said, I am not sure just what the real situation is. I don't if we might eventually have to bunch them together and find a camp for them or whether many of them will soon go back home as some are doing," he said. Mr Mamba said he was not aware of what arrangements were being made for the Mozambicans after they are registered by the regional authorities.

The regional administrator, Mr Abbey Mamba, was not available for comment. Police and officials of the Mozambican Embassy refused to comment on the matter. An official at the embassy said: "We cannot comment and we do not know about this story."

ZAMBIA

Zaire Begins Roundup, Ouster of Zambian Workers

First Wave Crosses Border

MB211858 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 21 Aug 84

[Text] The first batch of the more than 200 Zambians expelled from Zaire have been repatriated to Zambia through the Mokambo border post in Mufulira. According to the Zambia News Agency, ZANA, the deportees — women, men, and children — crossed into Zambia through Mokambo at 1000 this morning. Mufulira governor, Boyd Kaseunga, rushed to the border with five council trucks to receive and transport them to the central sports-football ground, which is in the initial stop for them.

The more than 200 expelled Zambians were rounded up from Mokambo, (Mwenda), and Sakania inside Zaire, and all reported that they had no food since their rounding-up on Sunday. The second batch of Zambian deportees were expected to arrive at Mokambo this afternoon by train from various places where they were rounded up in a clean-up operation by Zairian (?ferriers).

Most of the deportees have wounds on their backs said to have been sustained in beatings by Zairian soldiers after they were rounded up. Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines' Mufulira division has offered four social welfare centers to accommodate the Zambians, while all primary and secondary schools have also been reserved for the same purpose.

A Mufulira District task force has been formed, headed by Governor Kaseunga, with the full task of receiving, feeding, (?clearing), and housing the deportees in the district. Meanwhile, another batch of Zambians fleeing from Zaire arrived in Chililabombwe this morning. This brings the number of Zambians arriving in Chililabombwe from Zaire to (?39). Others arrived yesterday, and complained of harrassment and beating from Zairian soldiers. The group is accomodated at (Ngwenjele) hall, where they are being looked after by district authorities.

According to area governnor Denny Kapandula, everything was being done to receive the Zambians returning from Zaire. All the returning Zambians have been vaccinated against communicable diseases [word indistinct] from another country, and medical personnel in the district have been mobilized for this purpose. Immigration and customs officers at Kasumbalesa said Zairian authorities have not yet started repatriating the Zambians [word indistinct].

Further Arrivals Reported

MB220944 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] It is reported from Solwezi that more than 1,200 Zambians who have been living in Zaire legally for many years have been ordered to return to Zambia through Kipushi immigration border post.

Northwestern province member of the Central Committee, Maxwell Beyani confirmed the arrival of 1,100 Zambians at (Kalindawala) Kipushi and a further 31 at (Chesternest) (Lusaka's Palace) near the border with Zaire. Mr Beyani said the number might be trebled by today when more Zambians were expected to arrive in Solwezi.

About 30,000 Zambians were expected to cross into northwestern province form Zaire at the end of the deportations expected to be in retaliation for the expulsion of illegal Zairean immigrants from Zambia. Mr Beyani said Zambians were ordered to abandon their personal affects like blankets, clothes, watches, shoes, and other property when leaving Zaire. Mr

Beyani appealed to Lusaka to urgently send blankets, food, and transport to Solwezi to alleviate the suffering of the expelled Zambians.

Committee for Refugees Formed

MB221253 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia announced today that a national committee under the chairmanship of Secretary to the Cabinet Evans Willima has been formed to look after Zambian deportees from Zaire. The prime minister told a news conference at his office that the committee was already doing a commendable job, adding that all precautionary measures have been taken to care for the deportees.

Mr Mundia, who was flanked by Information and Broadcasting Services Minister Cosmas Chibanda and his permanent secretary (Ions Kazwe), assured the nation that the situation was under control. He said the government has had contacts with Zairian authorities, and according to information received from Kinshasa, Lubumbashi, and the Zairian Embassy in Lusaka, the worst has already passed. The prime minister said President Kaunda is fully aware of the situation and would have addressed the nation if the matter were more serious than it is.

According to figures made available to the prime minister by yesterday, 1,131 Zambians have returned home through various crossing points. More than 700 Zambians expelled from Zaire have been transported to Solwezi and camped at Katanda national service camp awaiting location of their relatives. Under Secretary (Chipon Ndadaka) confirmed that the first lorry arrived at Katandana at midnight and other trucks came in the early hours of today. Five lorries were last night dispatched to Kalindi center near Kipushi border post to pick up more than 1,000 Zambians who crossed the border on Monday and awaiting transport to take them to Solwezi. Efforts are being made to provide shelter, food, and medical attention for the deportees.

Deportees Assured of Assistance

MB230734 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] Copperbelt Provincial Secretary (Pickson Sitambala) has assured Zambians deported form Zaire that the party and its government would do all things possible to look after them. Mr (Sitambala) made the assurance when he addressed two separate groups of deportees at the (Circle) club for the women and (Ntende) for the men yesterday. He told them that the party and its government would care for them until they found (?ministrations) and accommodations.

In the northwestern province hundreds of Zambians deported from Zaire today narrated stories of inhuman treatment at the hands of Zairean soldiers in the mining town of (Kipuchi). They said in Solwezi that at least 6,000 families, most of them working for the mines, were affected. Zambian journalists who visited the border area 120 kilometers north of Solwezi heard how heavily armed Zairean soldiers ordered Zambians to vacate their houses on Sunday, leaving behind all their property except clothes they were wearing.

Zaire Formally Announces Deportation

MB221901 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 22 Aug 84

[Text] The Zairian Government announced today that the formal deportation of Zambians rounded up in an operation in Zaire will start on 31 August. This was stated in Ndola by Zairian Consul General Kesangana Dedetemo at a news conference at which he said Zambians who had already arrived from Zaire had not been deported, but allegedly had just run away on their own. The consul general said he received the date of launching the deportations from his government last night and communicated it to Copperbelt Member of the Central Committee Alex Shapi today.

But Mr Shapi told Zambia News Agency today that the Zairian authorities had issued an order for the release of all Zambians rounded up in the operation [word indistinct]. He said in an exclusive interview that he had received this information from Shaba Regional Governor (Mandungubula Nyati) late this afternoon, and said however that the Zairians gave no indication of how many Zambians have been freed under this new directive, allegedly issued yesterday.

Mr Shapi said most Zambians had not been cornered in the Zairian towns of Lubumbashi, Kolwezi, and Likasi, as well as in other areas of the country after being duped that there was urgent information to be given to them from Zambian authorities. Earlier, Mr Shapi disclosed that Zambians who had taken flight from Zaire had arrived in Ndola without any of their property and that many of them were weak due to lack of food after days of starvation.

Mr Shapi said the Zairian Government was convering up the brutal treatment given to Zambian deportees, adding that most of the Zambians who had arrived had been beaten up by Zairian authorities. At his news conference, Mr Dedetemo said Zambians were being rounded up for deportation in compliance with a new law on immigrants enacted on 12 September 1983. According to this decree, which he cited as Number 83/033, a consensus [as heard] of all aliens living in Zaire had to be conducted and all the aliens were given time to obtain proper documents, adding that aliens who complied with the law had been issued with residence permits to legalize their continued stay. He said the program will go on for many months.

In answer to a question on how many Zambians had been arrested for deportation, Mr Dedetto could not give any specific figures, but merely stated that there were not more than 500,000 Zambians living in his country. In sharp reaction to Mr Dedetemo's statement, Mr Shapi rejected the suggestion that the deportations would start on 31 August, saying those who had arrived were clear testimony that the deportations of Zambians had started. Mr Shapi said it was difficult why people should be called for a meeting in a stadium and then lock them up if the law was in existence.

And addressing two seperate groups of deportees at (Buseko

Club) for the women and (Mutendo) for men, Copperbelt Province Political Secretary Pickson Chitambala assured the 300 expelled Zambians now in Mufulira that the party and its government will do everything possible to look after them. He said they should not regard themselves as aliens because they were now back in their motherland.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Assures Zimbabweans Over IMF Suspension

MB230552 Harare Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of finance, economic planning, and development, Comrade Bernard Chidzero, yesterday assured Zimbabweans that there is nothing unusual about the temporary suspension of Zimbabwe's program with the IMF. Comrade Chidzero was reacting to recent reports in the London *FINANCIAL TIMES* that Zimbabwe's save-by-borrowing program with the IMF had collapsed and that this was a severe setback to hopes for larger borrowing.

Comrade Chidzero said that while the temproary suspension had made things a bit uncomfortable the move will not cripple the economy and the country is in no danger of defaulting on its debts. Zimbabwe's program with the IMF was suspended after the Country's new budget in February.

President Arrives in Romania for Celebrations

MB230701 Harare Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 23 Aug 84

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, arrived in the Romanian capital, Bucharest, yesterday to attend the 40th anniversary of the antifacist and anti-imperialist revolution which led to the establishment of a socialist state in that country. On arrival, Comrade Banana paid a courtesy call on the Romanian president and secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu.

Comrade Banana and a number of world leaders later heard the Romanian leader deliver a report to the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party. Comrade Ceausescu denounced imperialist countries for undermining the sovereignty of newly independent countries. He called for an end to the arms race to ensure global peace and stability.